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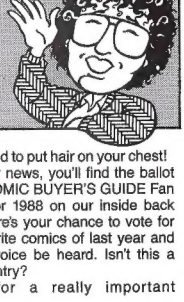
STAN LEE PRESENTS
MARVEL AGE®

SALICRUP'S SECTION



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Welcome to the special macho issue of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. Well, what would you call an issue that features previews of Marvel's upcoming **Nick Fury** and **Wolverine** series, not to mention the new SAILOR'S STORY Graphic Novel and the INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE movie adaptation? This issue is guaranteed to put hair on your chest!

In other news, you'll find the ballot for the COMIC BUYER'S GUIDE Fan Awards for 1988 on our inside back cover. Here's your chance to vote for your favorite comics of last year and let your voice be heard. Isn't this a great country?

Now for a really important

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

. . . Starting next issue, we regret to report that MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE will cost $1.00 an issue. We'd love to keep the price at 50¢, but reality has stepped in, and unless we raise our price, MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE will simply cease to exist. But here's the really good news: If you subscribe right now (and we mean right now, this offer expires May 20, 1989) you can still get 12 issues of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE at the incredibly low price of $6.00! Just 50¢ an issue, but you must act now! Simply use the coupon below or any subscription coupon found on the last page of most Marvel comics!

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KEY: MARVEL AGE 77

We're planning a few surprise features in the coming months to be worthy of the price increase, so stick around, the best is still to come!

—Jim Salicrup

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MARVEL AGE® Vol. 1, No. 77, August, 1989. (ISSN #8750-4367) Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President; Stan Lee, Publisher; Michael Hobson, Group Vice President. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1989 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price 50¢ per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate $6.00 for 12 issues. Canada and foreign, $8.00. Printed in the U.S.A. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL AGE (including all MARVEL titles and prominent MARVEL characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO MARVEL AGE, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

Here's a complete checklist of what's happening in all the Marvel, Epic, New Universe, and Marvel U.K. titles shipping in May and the first week of June.

Titles Shipping May 4
On Sale May 23

☐ **DAREDEVIL** #270—**Mephisto** wants **Daredevil**'s soul. And he's sending **Blackheart** to get it! Will even the help from **Spider-Man** be enough to save **Daredevil**? Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **John Romita Jr.**, and inked by **Al Williamson**. $1.00.

MARVEL® COMING ATTRACTIONS

The cover to THE INCREDIBLE HULK #359 drawn by John Byrne.

☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #357—The biweekly action begins with two hard-hitting tales! In "Night of Sin" the teenaged **Captain America** must stop the terror of **Mother Night** and the new **Sisters of Sin**! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled and inked by **Al Milgrom**. And in the prologue to the six-part "Bloodstone Hunt" saga, **Diamondback** must stop both **Baron Zemo** and **Batroc's Brigade** from stealing the skeleton of **Ulysses Bloodstone**! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Kieron Dwyer**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**. $1.00.

☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL** #23—Chapter IV in the epic "Atlantis Attacks" crossover! **Ghaur** and **Llyra** have separated the soul of **Tyrannus** from the body of the **Abomination**. Will even the combined power and skill of **Spider-Man** and the **She-Hulk** be enough to stop the rampaging fury of the now mindless **Abomination**? Plotted by **Gerry Conway**, scripted by **David Michelinie**, and penciled by **Rob Liefeld**. Cover by **John Byrne**. 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #27 — Marvel's biweekly anthology continues with four new stories!

HAVOK Part IV: To free the woman he loves, **Havok** must defeat **the Cult of the Living Pharaoh's** merciless army, the **Trackers!** Written by **Howard Mackie**, penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Joe Rubinstein**.

BLACK PANTHER Part XV: **Black Panther** and his friends are about to become human torches! Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**.

COLDBLOOD Part II: To reach his final destination, **Coldblood**, the cyborg assassin, must defeat the ultimate defense of the future—killer robots! Written by **Doug Moench** and drawn by **Paul Gulacy**.

And complete in this issue: why must the **American Eagle** fight the **Peacemonger**? The answer will astonish you! Written by **Scott Lobdell**, penciled by **Ron Wilson**, and inked by **Jeff Albrecht**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **CONAN THE KING** #54 — All that stands between **King Conan** and soul-destroying defeat at the hands of the wizard **Thoth Amon** is his estranged son, **Prince Conn**. What will **Prince Conn** do? Written by **Jim Owsley** and drawn by **Geof Isherwood**. Plus a special tale of life in the Hyborian Age written by **Adam Blaustein**, penciled by **Dale Englesham**, and inked by **Pat Redding**. 32 pages. $1.50.

☐ **EXCALIBUR** #12—**Excalibur** finds itself trapped in a fairy tale dimension where the dangers are your worst nightmares come true! Written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **Alan Davis**, and inked by **Paul Neary**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **SAGA OF WOLVERINE Limited Series** #1 — You demanded it and now here it is! It's the complete—and we mean complete—biography of **Wolverine**! Everything ever revealed in **Wolverine's** life from THE UNCANNY X-MEN, his two Limited Series, and countless guest-appearances has been jam-packed into this Limited Series. A must! Written by **Peter Sanderson**. A Marvel Graphic Album. $3.50.

☐ **THE SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK** #5—Editor **Bobbie Chase** calls this her favorite **She-Hulk** story! **She-Hulk** finds herself swept into the bizarre world of television—literally! And it's all thanks to the bizarre **Dr. Bong**! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Bob Wiacek**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL** #8—In one of the most brutal **Punisher** stories yet, the **Punisher** takes on **Damage** and his New York City drug cartel—and loses! Guest-starring the mysterious **Shadowmasters**! Written by **Carl Potts** and drawn by **Jim Lee**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** #54—**Spidey** confronts **J. Jonah Jameson's** impersonator—the **Chameleon**! **Mary Jane** discovers the truth about **Kristy's** bizarre behavior! And the gang war between the **Kingpin**, the **Arranger**, the mutant-werewolf **Lobo Brothers**, and the **Chameleon** reaches a breaking point! Written by **Gerry Conway**, penciled by **Alex Saviuk**, and inked by **Keith Williams**. $1.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS** #25—Watch out, **Cobra**, here comes the most amazing **G.I. JOE** team yet—**Tiger Force! Jinx, Lightfoot**, and **Alpine** team up with **Tiger Force** for an Alpine mission against **Cobra** that you'll never forget! "Forced Play" is written by **Larry Hama** and penciled by **Herb Trimpe**. $1.00.

☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS** #48—**Scarlet Witch** has fallen under the control of an ancient, mutant manipulator. **Captain America** and the **She-Hulk** are pulling out all stops to save her from the menace. The trouble is, the **Scarlet Witch** loves what's happened! And once you see who the manipulator is, you'll know why! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Mike Machlan**. $1.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS** #12—Meet the astonishing **Super Trooper**! He's the toughest **Joe** you'll ever see! Wait'll you see how he makes a believer out of the whole **G.I. Joe** strike force! "Super Trooper" is written by **Steve Alan** and drawn by **Stuart Johnson**. A Marvel U.K. comic. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.75.

Titles Shipping May 11
On Sale May 30

☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #319 — AMAZING goes biweekly!

Scorpion's double-crossed **Justin Hammer**. That's why the **Rhino** and **Blacklash** are out to kill him—and why **Spidey** must save the **Scorpion**! Written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Todd McFarlane**. $1.00.

☐ **AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT** #22—Two tales of the **Avengers!**

Is this **Hawkeye's** last stand? It sure looks like it because not only is he up against the **Brothers Grimm** and **Mad Dog**—he's also gotta fight **Bobcat** and his gang of **Claws!** Written by **Howard Mackie**, penciled by **Al Milgrom**, and inked by **Don Heck.**

The **Vision** crashes the Tonight Show—and late night programming might not survive the experience! Written by **John Byrne** and penciled by **Kieron Dwyer.** $1.00.

☐ **ALF** #19—Enquiring minds want to know what's going to happen in the future! And **Alf** decides he's going to tell them! **Alf** launches his career as an astrologer with the nation's largest tabloid with some of the most hair-raising predictions this side of today's headlines! "The Alfstrologer" is written by **Michael Gallagher**, penciled by **Dave Manak**, and inked by **Marie Severin.** $1.00.

☐ **GROO THE WANDERER** #55—Has **Groo** gone mad? Now he's waging war against the Animal Kingdom! Written and drawn by **Sergio Aragonés** and hide-tanning by **Mark Evanier.** $1.00.

☐ **HEATHCLIFF** #37—**Heathcliff** a prince? In this outrageous spoof of the classic "Prince and the Pauper," **Heathcliff** switches places with the richest cat in the world. And that's when the real fun begins! "The Prince and the Pawper" is written by **Angelo DeCesare**, penciled by **Warren Kremer**, and inked by **Jacqueline Roettcher.** $1.00.

☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT** #74—**Alpha Flight** is back on Earth. But it's the Earth of the future where **Reed Richards** is President, super heroes have been outlawed, and **Alpha Flight** never existed! But if you think that's bizarre, wait'll you see the ending—it's a *shocker*! "Dark Reflections" is written by **James D. Hudnall**, penciled by **John Calimee**, and inked by **Mike Manley.** $1.50.

☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE UPDATE Limited Series** #3—From the **Fantastic Four** to the **Hulk**, more biographies of all your favorite heroes and villains. Written by **Peter Sanderson**, penciled by **Sal Buscema, Ron Frenz, Walt Simonson, Marc Silvestri, Colleen Doran, Kieron Dwyer, Paul Neary, John Romita Jr., Kevin Nowlan, Jeff Purves**, and more! Inked by **Joe Rubinstein.** 48 pages. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **POWER LINE** #8—His name is **Eric Ravenscore.** And he's going to love killing the **Power Line** kids! It's a suspense-filled thriller by the guest creative team of writer **Howard Mackie**, penciler **Mike Manley**, and inker **Al Williamson.** An Epic comic. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **WOLVERINE** #11—The biweekly adventure begins!

Ba'al is a legendary god of limitless evil. Centuries ago, his spirit was imprisoned in the Gehenna Stone. Now that dark stone of legend has resurfaced. And **Wolverine** and **Jessica Drew** must stop the spirit of **Ba'al** from being released! "The Gehenna Stone" Part I is written by **Peter David** and penciled by **John Buscema.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

new universe

☐ **THE WAR Limited Series** #4—World War III is over. But is there any hope for mankind's survival? The final issue of the limited series reveals one of the most frightening futures for humanity! Written by **Doug Murray**, drawn by **Tom Morgan**, and color art by **Paul Mounts.** A New Universe Graphic Album. 48 pages. $3.50.

The Nth Man interrogates a prisoner. Art by Ron Wagner and Fred Fredericks.

☐ **NTH MAN** #2—**John Doe, the Nth Man**, is on **Alfie O'Meegan's** trail—at least that's what the U.S. government hopes! Meanwhile **Col. Novikova** faces a death sentence for allowing **John Doe** to escape! Written by **Larry Hama**, penciled by **Ron Wagner**, and inked by **Fred Fredericks.** $1.00.

☐ **THE NEW MUTANTS** #79—**Dani** becomes the first victim in the war in Asgard! Written by **Louise Simonson** and penciled by **Bret Blevins.** $1.00.

☐ **THE PUNISHER ANNUAL** #2—Chapter V of the "Atlantis Attacks" crossover saga.

The **Punisher** is transformed into a drug-maddened berserker and **Moon Knight** is his first victim! Written by **Mike Baron** and penciled by **Bill Reinhold.** 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** #163—The merciless **Picts** are putting the torch to the countryside! It's **Conan's** most desperate battle yet when he and an outnumbered group of farmers fight for their lives against the marauding **Picts** in the fragile refuge of an isolated fortress! "Call of the Wolf" is plotted by **Chuck Dixon** and **Gary Kwapisz**, scripted by **Chuck Dixon**, breakdown art by **Gary Kwapisz**, and finished art by **Pat Redding.** A Marvel black and white magazine. 64 pages. For Mature Readers only. $2.25.

☐ **THE 'NAM** Trade Paperback #3—Re-presenting from THE 'NAM Nos. 9, 10, 11, and 12 the death of **Mike Albergo**, the chaotic celebration of South Vietnam's National Day, Christmas in Vietnam, and what happens when the assignment is the annihilation of a Viet Cong village. "Pride Goeth . . .," "Guerrilla Action," "'Tis the Season," and "From Cedar Falls, with Love" are written by **Doug Murray**, penciled by **Mike Golden** and **John Severin**, inked by **John Beatty** and **John Severin.** 96 pages. Direct sales only. $6.95.

☐ **A SAILOR'S STORY** Graphic Novel #2—**Sam Glanzman**'s autobiographical war journal continues! In the final months of World War II, the desperate Japanese unleash the kamikaze! For both **Sam** and the U.S.S. *Stevens*, it is the ultimate savage test of survival! Written and drawn by **Sam Glanzman**. 64 pages. $6.95.

Titles Shipping May 18
On Sale June 6

☐ **MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** #78—An exclusive 5-page preview and article on QUASAR! Plus reports on STEELTOWN ROCKERS Limited Series, SHADOWMASTERS, the DOCTOR DOOM AND DOCTOR STRANGE Graphic Novel; the **Bob Harras** interview, **Stan**'s Soapbox, **Mark**'s Remarks, **Hembeck**'s Page, Marvel Trivia Quiz, and all our other regular features. $1.00.

☐ **THE INCREDIBLE HULK** #359—Will the **Hulk** be redeemed, or will he find his and **Glorian**'s souls irrevocably in thrall to the ultimate infernal lord? Those are the real stakes in **Hulk**'s final battle with **Cloot** and the **Maggia**! Miss this issue, and you'll miss one of the **Hulk**'s greatest battles—with a climax that'll leave you breathless! Written by **Peter David**, penciled by **Jeff Purves**, and inked by **Marie Severin**. $1.00.

☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #358—The biweekly adventure continues with two serials!

BLOODSTONE HUNT Part I: **Captain America** and **Diamondback** travel from Subterranea to South America in a desperate attempt to get one of the **Bloodstone** fragments before **Baron Zemo** does! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Kieron Dwyer**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**.

USAGENT VERSUS SCOURGE Part I: **Scourge** is out to kill the **Power Broker**. The **USAgent** has vowed that'll never happen. And that's exactly what **Scourge** wants to hear! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Mark Bright** and inked by **Al Milgrom**. $1.00.

☐ **THE AVENGERS** #307—**Gilgamesh** has fallen! How can the **Avengers** defeat the **Lava Men** and their gigantic lava monster now? Written by **John Byrne**, penciled by **Paul Ryan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**. $1.00.

☐ **MARVEL TALES** #227—Re-presenting from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #92, the explosive aftermath of the death of **Captain Stacy**! Guest-starring **Iceman** who has vowed to bring **Spider-Man** to justice! Written by **Stan Lee**, penciled by **Gil Kane**, inked by **John Romita Sr.**, and new cover by **Todd McFarlane**. $1.00.

☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN** #222—**Conan** must retrieve a sacred relic stolen by a fanatic cult. The only way he can succeed is if he slays every member of the cult! "The Wheel of Life and Death" is written by **Michael Fleisher** and penciled by **Gary Kwapisz**. $1.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE** #90—You want action—it's here! The **Joes Clutch, Rock 'n' Roll, Hawk, Cover Girl, Law** and **Order, Mutt** and **Junkyard, Snake-Eyes, Scarlett, Stormshadow**, and **Breaker** against **Road Pig**, all the **Dreadnoks, Cobra Commander, Destro, the Baroness, Darkion, Dr. Mindbender**, and **Vipers, Iron Grenadiers, Televipers**, and as if that weren't enough—there's also the return of the **Red Ninjas**! "Recurring Themes" is written by **Larry Hama**, penciled by **Mark Bright**, and inked by **Randy Emberlin**. $1.00.

☐ **THE PUNISHER** #23—It's a suspense-filled prelude to the new SHADOWMASTERS Limited Series! The **Punisher** is out to slay the killers of the ninja students from a secret academy. But can even he defeat the **Eternal Sun Society** on his own? Written by **Mike Baron**, penciled by **Erik Larsen**, and inked by **Scott Williams**. $1.00.

☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL** #9—Chapter VI of the "Atlantis Attacks" crossover saga! **Cloak** and **Dagger** and **Spider-Man** team up to investigate the new miracle drug of **Dr. Tyrone**'s that guarantees to cure addicts of any addiction! Sounds too good to be true? You bet it is—because the "cure" is the same stuff **Viper** used in CAPTAIN AMERICA to turn the people in Washington, D.C., into lizards! Written by **Gerry Conway** and penciled by **Dave Ross**. 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #248—**Nanny** and the **Orphan Maker** plan to bushwhack the **X-Men**. But there may be no **X-Men** left to kill—because their ranks are already being decimated from within! Written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **Mark Silvestri**, and inked by **Dan Green**. $1.00.

SUPER-VILLAIN™ CHECKLIST

Abomination—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #23
A.I.M.—IRON MAN #246
Arranger—WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #54, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #154
Ba'al—WOLVERINE #11-12
Badoon—SILVER SURFER #27
Baron Mordo—DOCTOR STRANGE #7
Baron Zemo—CAPTAIN AMERICA #357-359
Batroc's Brigade—CAPTAIN AMERICA #357
Black Cat—MOON KNIGHT #4
Blackheart—DAREDEVIL #270
Blacklash—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #319
Bobcat and his Claws—SOLO AVENGERS #22
Chameleon—WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #54, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #154
Cloot—INCREDIBLE HULK #357
Cult of the Living Pharaoh—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #27-28
Damage—THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #8
Doctor Bong—SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK #5
Drake, Carlton—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #320
Dreadnaughts—IRON MAN #246
Ego—THOR #406
Eternal Sun Society—THE PUNISHER #23
Ghaur—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #23, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #9, DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #4, THE PUNISHER ANNUAL #2
Hammer, Justin—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #319
High Evolutionary—THOR #407
Kingpin—WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #54, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #154
Lava Men—THE AVENGERS #307
Living Mummy—CAPTAIN AMERICA #359
Llyrs—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #23, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #9, DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #4, THE PUNISHER ANNUAL #2
Lobo Brothers—WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #54, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #154
Madame Masque—IRON MAN #246
Mad Dog—SOLO AVENGERS #22
Maggia—INCREDIBLE HULK #359, IRON MAN #246
Mephisto—DAREDEVIL #270, DOCTOR STRANGE #7
Midnight—MOON KNIGHT #4
Molecule Man—FANTASTIC FOUR #330
Mother Night—CAPTAIN AMERICA #357
Nanny—UNCANNY X-MEN #248
Orka—SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER #11
Orphan Maker—UNCANNY X-MEN #248
Peacemonger—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #27
Plasma—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #29
Quagmire—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #29
Captain Reptyl—SILVER SURFER #27
Rhino—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #319
Satannish—DOCTOR STRANGE #7
Scorpion—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #319
Scourge—CAPTAIN AMERICA #358-359
Serpent Cult—DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #4
Sister of Sin—CAPTAIN AMERICA #357
Skrulls—SILVER SURFER #27
Stranger—SILVER SURFER #27
Super Trackers—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #28
Trackers—MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #27-28
Tyrannus—AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #23, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #9, DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #4
White Queen—CLASSIC X-MEN #37

☐ **SILVER SURFER** #27—The **Badoon** attack the **Skrulls. Clumsy Foulup** betrays the **Skrulls** to the **Kree. Captain Repty!** betrays his crew. The **Stranger** arrives. The **Silver Surfer** tries to stop the cosmos-threatening chaos. And, in the middle of it all, the **Contemplator** appears—or does he? Written by **Steve Engleheart**, penciled by **Ron Lim**, and inked by **Tom Christopher**. $1.00

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #28—The biweekly anthology action continues!

HAVOK Part V: **Havok** discovers that as deadly as the **Trackers** were, they're nothing compared to the **Super Tracker**! Written by **Howard Mackie** penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Joe Rubinstein**.

BLACK PANTHER Part XVI: The **Black Panther** races against all odds to save one of the children torched by the white supremacists! Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**.

COLDBLOOD Part III: **Coldblood** reaches his goal, unexpectedly encounters a woman from his human past, and realizes that his only chance of survival is to leave the bizarre fortress called the Funhouse immediately! Trouble is, getting out is even harder than getting in! Written by **Doug Moench** and drawn by **Paul Gulacy**.

Plus complete in this issue: a haunting tale of trouble in paradise when **Triton** finds himself locked in a fight for his life against a mutated sea monster. You'll never forget the ending! Written by **Robert Campenella**, penciled by **Javier Saltarés**, and inked by **José Marzan**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **WHAT IF. . .?** #3—You know what happened when **Steve Rogers** handed in his shield and uniform. But discover what would have happened if **Steve Rogers** had refused to give up being **Captain America**! Written by **Jim Valentino** and drawn by **Dave Simons**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **S.H.I.E.L.D.** #1—Because you demanded it, the debut of an all-new monthly S.H.I.E.L.D. series! **S.H.I.E.L.D.** as you know it may be gone, and that's bad news for Earth and **Nick Fury**! There's a new danger stalking **Nick**—to stop it, he must band with his friends. But when he does, he exposes both them and himself to an even greater menace! Written by **Bob Harras**, penciled by **Bob Hall**, and inked by **Kim DeMulder**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **THE SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER Limited Series** #11—It's the penultimate issue, and it's a blockbuster! **Namor** meets the incomparable **Namorita, Namor** fights the awesome **Orka**, and to top it off, **Namor** reveals his side of the epic battles he had as a **Defender**! Written by **Roy** and **Dann Thomas**, penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Bob McLeod**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **DEATH'S HEAD** #7—**Big Shot** and **Short Fuse** are the dumbest hit men the mob has. They've just been ordered to kill **Death's Head**. And they may just be dumb enough to succeed! Written by **Simon Furman**, penciled by **Bryan Hitch**, and inked by **Jeff Anderson**. A Marvel U.K. comic. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.75.

Titles Shipping May 25 On Sale June 13

☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR** #330—**Molecule Man** returns! Written by **Steve Englehart**, penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Romeo Tanghal**. $1.00.

☐ **THOR** #407—**Thor** embarks on his most perilous quest! He journeys into the dread Black Dimension to discover the ultimate fate of his friend, **Hercules**, and the awesome **High Evolutionary**! Plus: the long-awaited return of the **Recorder** and more on **Ego the Living Planet**! Written by **Tom DeFalco**, penciled by **Ron Frenz**, and inked by **Joe Sinnott**. And, in Tales of Asgard: **Thor** must fight a monster whose whole body is composed of the same uru metal as his hammer! "There Dwells a Monster" is written by **Tom DeFalco** and drawn by **Mike Mignola**. $1.00.

☐ **COUNT DUCKULA** #6—She's the great Thrushian spy, **Votsamata Hari**. And what she's planning to do to **Count Duckula** shouldn't happen to anyone—especially not a vegetarian duck vampire! Plus: a special **Danger Mouse** feature! Written by **Michael Gallagher** and drawn by **Warren Kremer**. $1.00.

☐ **THE TRANSFORMERS** #56—Remember **Megatron**? Well, if you don't—and especially if you do—find out why he's the most feared **Decepticon** of all! It's the opening chapter of an extraordinary trilogy pitting the **Autobots** against the **Decepticons** on their homeworld of **Cybertron**! Guest-written by **Simon Furman** and penciled by **Jose Delbo**. $1.00.

☐ **X-FACTOR** #44—The astonishing origin of **X-Factor**'s space ship is revealed! It's a secret that could alter the future of the cosmos! You think that's hype? Then why are the **Celestials** there? Written by **Louise Simonson** and penciled by **Walt Simonson**. $1.00.

☐ **WOLVERINE** #12—The biweekly action continues!

"The Gehanna Stone" Part II: Who will be the first to fall beneath the spell of **Ba'al**, **Jessica Drew** or **Wolverine**? Written by **Peter David** and penciled by **John Buscema**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **DAREDEVIL ANNUAL** #4—Chapter VII of the "Atlantis Attacks" crossover saga!

Talk about your free-for-all fights! **Dr. Tyrone**—you know him as **Tyrannus**—is out to destroy **Ghaur**'s plan. He's got a good chance in succeeding, because he's got **Spider-Man** under his control! Where's **Daredevil**? He's *trying* to stage a rescue, trouble is, he's got the whole **Serpent** cult against him! "Friends" is written by **Gerry Conway** and penciled by **Mark Bagley**. 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **CONAN SAGA** #28—Re-presenting from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #16, part 1 of one of the greatest Conan epics, "People of the Black Circle!" Written by **Roy Thomas**, penciled by **John Buscema**, and inked by **Alfredo Alcala**. Plus: from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #29, "Child of Sorcery." Written by **Roy Thomas** and drawn by **Ernie Chan**. A Marvel black and white magazine. 64 pages. For Mature Readers. $2.25.

A **Limited Series** is a title which will only run for a specific number of issues.

A **Graphic Novel** is an 8 ½" x 11" paperback edition.

A **Trade Paperback** is a 7" x 10" paperback edition.

A **Graphic Album** is a 6⅝" x 10" high quality, square-bound edition.

A **Direct Sales** title is available only at selected outlets.

Shipping Date refers to when the comics leave the printer.

☐ **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #320—The biweekly action continues!

Paladin has a new client—**Carlton Drake** of the life Foundation! Is money the only reason why **Paladin**'s working for him? **Spidey**'s out to find the answer to that, and to why **Carlton Drake** is secretly stocking his camp with every gun he can lay his hands on! Guest-starring: **Silver Sable**. Written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Todd McFarlane**. $1.00.

☐ **AKIRA** #12—The super mutant child, **Akira**, has escaped the government and the suspended animation chamber which contained him. In the ensuing panic, what was once covert warfare between government forces and resistance guerrillas erupts into full-fledged combat in the streets of Neo-Tokyo. During the turmoil, **Akira** is spirited away by a new player in this mounting game of psychic power and intrigue . . . **Sakaki**, the ninja girl! Written and drawn by **Katsuhiro Otomo**, English language adaptation by **Jo Duffy**, and computerized color by **Steve Oliff**. An Epic Graphic Album. 64 pages. Direct sales only. $3.95.

☐ **GROO CHONICLES** #3—More classic tales! More classic chills! More classic spills! More classic craziness! If you're a **Groo** fan, and if you love a good laugh, this collection of hard to find **Groo** tales is for you! Written and drawn by **Sergio Aragonés**, blow-dried by **Mark Evanier**, and new color by **Tom Luth**. An Epic Graphic Album. 48 pages. Direct sales only. $3.95.

Titles Shipping June 1 On Sale June 20

☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #359—The biweekly action heats up!

BLOODSTONE HUNT Part II: There's a **Bloodstone** fragment in South America. And to get it, **Captain America** must survive "The Wheel of Death!" Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Kieron Dwyer**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**.

USAGENT VERSUS SCOURGE Part II: **USAgent** discovers just how deadly **Scourge** really is! Written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Mark Bright**, and inked by **Al Milgrom**. $1.00.

☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** #154—The **Lobo Brothers** have gone loco! They're now waging a war against Manhattan itself in their attempt to destroy the **Arranger** and the **Kingpin**! And the consequences wreak havoc on **Glory Grant**! Meanwhile the **Puma** finds himself owing another debt of honor to **Spider-Man**. This one he's going to pay back quick—even if it means he must kill **Spidey** in order to do it! Written by **Gerry Conway** and drawn by **Sal Buscema**. $1.00.

☐ **CLASSIC X-MEN** #37—In the third chapter of the Dark Phoenix saga, **Kitty Pryde** joins the **X-Men**, **Storm**, **Wolverine** and **Colossus** are rescued from the **White Queen**'s torture room, and **Phoenix** falls further under the unsuspecting influence of **Mastermind**! "Run for Your Life" is written by **Chris Claremont**, penciled by **John Byrne**, and inked by **Terry Austin**. Plus: an all-new story revealing the dangers the **X-Men** see in **Phoenix**'s transformation. Written by **Ann Nocenti**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **THE 'NAM** #34—The soldier's story of the Vietnam War continues.

There are two wars in Vietnam—the "good" war of frontline combat, and the "dirty" war of special operations. In "Operation Phoenix" those two wars collide and for the soldier called **Ice**, the Vietnam War will never be the same! Written by **Doug Murray**, penciled by **Wayne Vansant**, and inked by **Geof Isherwood**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **IRON MAN** #246—There's a new **Madame Masque** in charge of the **Maggia**. And her orders are to kill the crippled **Tony Stark**. As if that weren't problem enough for him, he's also got an elite **A.I.M.** force and the **Dreadnaughts** after him, too! Co-plotted and scripted by **David Micheline** and co-plotted and drawn by **Bob Layton**. $1.00.

☐ **MOON KNIGHT** #4—He's danger incarnate! He's **Moon Knight**'s old foe, **Midnight**! At least, that's what **Moon Knight** thinks! But wait'll you see the shocking truth, and the role the **Black Cat** plays in the brutal confrontation! Written by **Chuck Dixon** and drawn by guest artist **Russ Heath**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE** #7—**Baron Mordo** sells **Doctor Strange**'s soul to **Satannish** and **Mephisto**! If you think that makes **Doctor Strange**'s situation hopeless, wait'll you see what **Baron Mordo** plans to do to him next! Written by **Roy** and **Dann Thomas**, penciled by **Jackson Guice**, and inked by **José Marzan Jr.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #29—The biweekly anthology action continues!

HAVOK Part VI: **Havok** confronts his ultimate foe, the mutant, **Plasma**! Written by **Howard Mackie**, penciled by **Rich Buckler**, and inked by **Joe Rubinstein**.

BLACK PANTHER Part XVII: Has the **Black Panther**'s search for his mother come to an end? Maybe, but only if the one man who knows where she is can live long enough to tell the **Black Panther**! Written by **Don McGregor**, penciled by **Gene Colan**, and inked by **Tom Palmer**.

COLDBLOOD Part IV: **Coldblood** escapes from one set of killer robots only to find himself pursued by an even more dangerous assassin robot! Written by **Doug Moench** and drawn by **Paul Gulacy**.

Plus complete in this issue: **Quasar** finds himself mired in a heap of swamp trouble courtesy of the **Man-Thing** and **Quagmire**! It's a special prelude to the new QUASAR series written by **Mark Gruenwald**, penciled by **Paul Ryan**, and inked by **Danny Bulanadi**. 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **ALF ANNUAL** #2—**Alf** travels to New Melmac and discovers that the planet is overrun with **ALF** clones! And that's just the first in this rib-tickling collection of all-new **Alien Life Form** adventures! Written by **Michael Gallagher**, penciled by **Dave Manak**, and inked by **Marie Severin**. 64 pages. $1.75.

NEWSWATCH

A PANOPLY OF PINT-SIZE PEEKS AT PERSONNEL, PROJECTS, AND PACHYDERMS.

DOCTOR WHO and VOYAGER: A DOCTOR WHO ADVENTURE TM and © 1989 by BBC

ITEM: Remember how, a few years back, we promised you a one-issue special, ADULT THERMONUCLEAR SAMURAI ELEPHANTS? Well, if you're one of those who've been waiting with bated breath ever since, unbate that breath and keep your eyes peeled! Because next month will see the debut of the much-awaited, newly-retitled POWER PACHYDERMS! Created by **Tom DeFalco** and **Adam Blaustein**, scripted by **Roger Stern**, penciled by **Adam Blaustein**, and inked by **John D'Agostino**, POWER PACHYDERMS will set the stage for a no-holds (or gags)-barred battle between our elephantine heroes and their greatest enemies, **Clarinetto** and the **New Musicians!**

Remember, POWER PACHYDERMS is no mere overnight sensation; it's three full years in the making! "Why three years?" asks Adam Blaustein. "They're elephants. They're slow."

ITEM: As long as we're on the topic of "Remember when . . . ?", remember Marvel's DOCTOR WHO series a few years back? Apparently, a whole bunch of you do, because we still get letters asking for its return! Well, we can't promise a new series just now, but thanks to our neighbors "across the pond" at England's Marvel UK, next month will bring the VOYAGER: A DOCTOR WHO ADVENTURE Graphic Novel! The story takes **the Doctor** and his talking penguin pal, **Frobisher**, on an adventure which leads all the way to the end of the world! Could any self-respecting Doctorphile live without it?

ITEM: Here we go again. It's time to bid a tearful farewell to yet another of our favorite people, assistant editor **Sue Flaxman**. Things just ain't gonna be the same without the ol' "Sue-Hulk" around, but she's not going too far, considering that she'll still be doing a bit of writing for THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN.

Meanwhile, let's welcome **Craig Anderson's** new assistant, **Renée Witterstaetter**! Reneé comes to us from a background in journalism and, most recently, a stint over at the Dynamic Competition. But even in the short time she's been here, she feels like she's found a new home! "Marvel is very relaxed, compared to some of the other places I've worked," Reneé says. "I already feel like I belong." In fact, Renée's already looking forward to the opportunity to write for some Marvel titles . . . including (imagine that) a certain Official Marvel Newsmagazine!

TOP TEN

The mutant books may have copped the top five positions this month, but AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL are providing some pretty stiff competition. And speaking of competition, MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE is once again marching up the chart although it hasn't cracked the Top Ten yet. Our Top Ten list of best-selling Marvel titles in the direct sales market for the month of December is compiled by our dependable Vice President/Direct Sales **Carol Kalish**. Now let's see how they stacked up:

1—**THE UNCANNY X-MEN #243**
2—**EXCALIBUR #7**
3—**HAVOK AND WOLVERINE Limited Series #2**
4—**WOLVERINE #9**
5—**X-FACTOR #39**
6—**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #314**
7—**THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #5**
8—**THE PUNISHER #18**
9—**THE NEW MUTANTS #74**
10—**WEST COAST AVENGERS #43**
26—**MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #73**

MARK'S REMARKS

Last month in this space, I extolled the virtues of the now-dearly departed New Universe line of titles. Well, this month, I come to bury the New U, not to praise it.

I think there were a number of factors that account for the New U never quite catching on with Marveldom in a big way. Let's begin with the perhaps dubious wisdom of Marvel, a company known for its unified fictional universe, coming out with a parallel cosmos at all. The birth of the New Universe was hyped to be a way to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Marvel Universe, but it must be admitted that establishing a rival cosmos is a somewhat strange way to celebrate a cosmos. True, not every single title Marvel ever published was set in the Marvel U (notably, licensed titles), but the New U was the most concerted effort at Marvel to split the fans' allegiance to its mainstream mythos. Yes, there were good reasons to start fresh, many of which I expounded upon in great detail last go around, but still, it must have been confusing for a reader to hear that the New U was the greatest thing to ever come down the pike—then what did that make the Marvel U, chopped liver? Asking readers to love two universes may have been too much for one company to ask.

The second reason why I think the New U ultimately failed is that some of the original creative teams did not quite grasp the elegant simplicity of the New Universe's groundbreaking basic concept, namely, the White Event as the sole divergent factor for everything. Let's face it, for a world that was supposed to be exactly like the real world up until the moment of the White Event, a lot of pre-White Event and non-White Event phenomena did their best to creep in to dilute the New U's uniqueness and to confuse readers. Such as. . .**Justice**'s fairy tale-like dimension of origin (later explained away), the aliens in early STAR BRAND stories (later explained away), the better-than-real-world-state-of-the-art technology in SPITFIRE (oops), and so on. Had everyone involved more scrupulously stuck to the main concept of the New U, the critical first year of the New U wouldn't have been so uneven.

The third factor in the New U's downfall, I believe, was that various titles were stifled by their creative teams' strict adherence to a mistaken notion that the New Universe was and had to remain the "world outside your window." What this notorious expression meant was that the New U was identical to the real world—the world that presumably lies outside each of the readers' windows, and inside it too, for that matter—up until the instant of the White Event, after which all bets were off. Many creative teams believed that it meant that the New U had to *remain* "the world outside your window," and thus nothing too earth-shaking could be allowed to happen for fear of having that reader-recognizable world become different. Face it, once paranormals were known to exist by the public, you'd have one significant difference between the New U and the Real U, and the New U would no longer be the world outside your window. This misunderstanding stifled the scope of New U stories right up until The Pitt happened, giving the New U tales the feel of made-for-TV-movies while most Marvel U tales had the feel of big-budget special effects motion pictures.

After The Pitt, of course, no one could accuse the New U of shying away from big deal events, but judging from the mail, most of the readers were still harboring the misimpression the creative teams had fostered, that the New U was meant to remain "the world outside your window" forever. Many fans felt we had betrayed the New U's premise (as they understood it) when we finally started living up to it (as we now understood it).

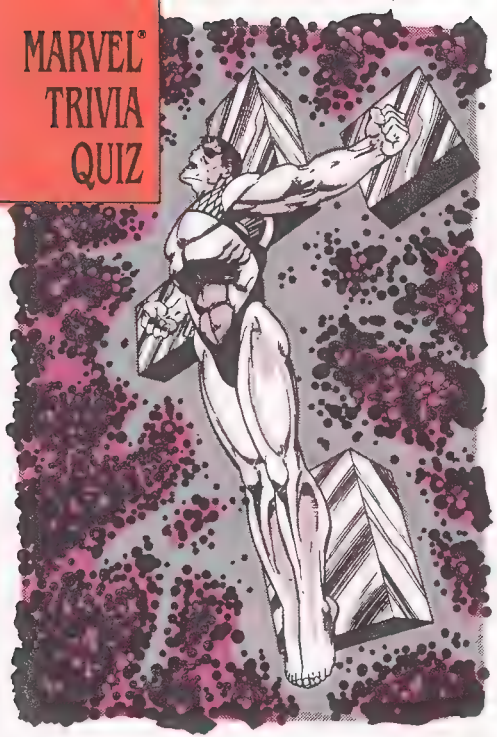
The fifth nail in the New U's cosmic coffin may be that the New U was too different, too off the beaten track, for its own good—namely, appeal to a mass audience. The New U approach to super-heroic fiction was to question and rethink every single aspect of the super hero experience, from the origin of all super-powers, to the way they worked, to the necessity of costumes and codenames, to the motivation to fight crime, and so on. Certain books, when grappling with these things, came up with pretty offbeat answers—namely, no costumes, infrequent use of codenames, and crimefighting as a rare exception to the paranormal way of life. Maybe this was too revolutionary, and readers prefer costumes, codenames, and simple motivations such as "He's bad, I'm good, that makes it my duty to stop him." **Paul Ryan**'s and my **D.P.7** were probably the worst offenders of the super hero conventions. In the 32-issue run, there are but a mere handful of archetypal hero-villain face-offs. We were making stories about people with super-powers, not about super heroes. STAR BRAND was equally unconventional in its own way. If you were into Good vs. Evil, the New U was not for you.

I could mention business and economic factors that may have hurt the New U, such as altering the format of the line in midstream, making the books direct-only, and hiking the price substantially twice, but these were all steps that were taken once the New U line was already floundering. Truth to tell, these steps actually enabled the New Universe line to last as long as it did.

So, as a line of monthly titles, the great experiment known as the New Universe is dead. The characters, many of whom have gained a rabid core following, will live on in sporadic special formats. I'm really going to miss a lot of them. Sometimes I wonder how many of the New U titles might still be around today if they had been set in the Marvel Universe from the start. Some I can easily see finding a comfortable niche in the Marvel U—Justice, **Nightmask**, and **Kickers**—others I'm afraid would just be somewhat redundant or inconsequential in the cosmic-powered mutantocentric Marvel U—my beloved D.P.7, for instance. Oh, well. It's not to be anyway. You can say a lot of things about the New Universe, but one thing you can't say is that it "sold out" and was tacked onto the outskirts of the immensely more popular Marvel Universe in a last ditch effort to save it.

—Mark Gruenwald

MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ



For a kid growing up in the 60s, super-spies were one of the ultimate fantasies. We had **James Bond** in the movies, the **Avengers** (**Steed** and **Emma**, that is) and **Patrick McGoohan** on T.V.—and in the comics, **Nick Fury** and his agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.! From the early **Stan Lee** and **Jack Kirby** tales through the legendary wizardry of **Steranko**, S.H.I.E.L.D.'s exploits could always be counted on to stun, amaze, and delight. Twenty-four years later, the super-spy group has accumulated a wealth of history and associated trivia—just a brief sample of which is provided below! Answers are on page 32.

—Brian Nelson

1. The history-making NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. Limited Series saw many of Nick's old allies turn against him, *except*:
A) **Jimmy Woo**
B) **Jasper Sitwell**
C) **Laura Brown**
D) **Gabe Jones**

2. The Infinity Formula, which extended Nick Fury's longevity and made him valuable to the forces behind the Delta scheme, was introduced in a tale presented in:
A) STRANGE TALES
B) MARVEL SPOTLIGHT
C) CAPTAIN AMERICA
D) INFINITY, INC.

3. The SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK Graphic Novel saw the S.H.I.E.L.D. heli-carrier downed by:
A) termites
B) cockroaches
C) silverfish
D) the FAA

4. S.H.I.E.L.D., **Captain America**, and **Spider-Man** joined forces to defeat SULTAN, whose acronymic name stood for:
A) Supreme Undercover Logistical Terrorist Alliance of Nazism
B) Systematic Ultimate Lawless Takeover of All Nations
C) Secret Ultra-Laser To Annihilate Non-believers
D) S.H.I.E.L.D.'s Useless Little Taskforce for Acronym Names

5. Which S.H.I.E.L.D. agent died in the tragic affair of the neo-Nazi group called the **National Force**?
A) **Gail Runciter**
B) **Kyle Richmond**
C) **Sharon Carter**
D) **Snowfall**

6. S.H.I.E L.D.'s defeat of the **Viper** and the **Silver Samurai** depended upon the **Black Widow** shaking off an alternate personality, that of:
A) school teacher, **Nancy Rushman**
B) scientist, **Norma Romans**
C) social worker, **Nita Rubin**
D) lovely television hostess, **Vanna White**

7. The **Thing** assisted S.H.I.E.L.D. when the **Fixer** and **Mentallo** sent **Deathlok the Demolisher** out to assassinate:
A) **Ronald Reagan**
B) **Jimmy Carter**
C) **Gerald Ford**
D) the writers of "Mr. Belvedere"

8. Who trained the **Super-Agents** of S.H.I.E.L.D.?
A) **Quasar**
B) the **Falcon**
C) the **Taskmaster**
D) **Sidney Levine** with a carload of **Jane Fonda** workout tapes

9. Which villain menaced not only Nick Fury and Jimmy Woo, but also the rarely-seen hero known as **Bloodstone**?
A) **Centurius**
B) **Ulluxy'l**
C) the **Hate-Monger**
D) **Ernst Stavros Blofeld**

10. The associated secret organizations that S.H.I.E.L.D. has sent down to defeat include **Hydra**, **AIM**, the **Secret Empire**, and:
A) **They**
B) **Them**
C) **Those**
D) **T'others**

11. Supreme Hydra **Baron Strucker** once infiltrated the ranks of S.H.I.E.L.D. by impersonating S.H.I.E.L.D. agent:
A) **Dum Dum Dugan**
B) **Clay Quartermain**
C) **John Bronson**
D) **Valentina De Fontaine**

12. Who first told Nick Fury of his appointment as new director of S.H.I.E.L.D.?
A) **Sam Sawyer**
B) **Tony Stark**
C) **Jake Fury**
D) **Robin Leach**

X-TRA THE MUTANT REPORT X-TRA

VOLUME 4 "THE NEXT STEP IN NEWS EVOLUTION" NUMBER 4

WOLVERINE SAGA

If there is one character that Marvel readers most want to know more about, it is Wolverine, the star of his own series and, along with Storm, the mutant with the longest-running active membership in THE UNCANNY X-MEN. To satisfy readers' fascination with the character, Marvel is now releasing a special Graphic Album Limited Series, WOLVERINE SAGA, that will chronicle everything that is known so far about Wolverine's life story in just four issues. WOLVERINE SAGA, will be written by yours truly, and designed by Cindy Kruhm, with editorial supervision by Craig Anderson and his new assistant, Renée Witterstaetter.

WOLVERINE SAGA will cover Wolverine's entire life, from the little that has been revealed about his life before he received his adamantium claws, to his first encounters with James and Heather Hudson of Alpha Flight, to his joining the X-Men, all the way up to and including the last adventures being written for Wolverine's own book by Chris Claremont, the writer most responsible for developing Wolverine's characterization over the last fourteen years. (EPIC editor in chief Archie Goodwin will become the next regular writer on WOLVERINE later this year.) In fact, I like to think of WOLVERINE SAGA as being in part an overview and summation of Chris's remarkable work with the character, the most popular member of comics' most popular super hero team.

WOLVERINE SAGA was originally proposed by George Olshevsky,

the compiler of the Official Marvel Indicies, and was intended to be like a combination of the Indicies and MARVEL SAGA, the twenty-five issue series that recounted the early history of Marvel stories, beginning with FANTASTIC FOUR #1, using art from the original stories.

WOLVERINE SAGA, however, will be considerably different from both. Rather than breaking Wolverine's history up into many different index entries, one for each story in which he appeared, WOLVERINE SAGA will be written like a biography of an actual person, with smooth transitions from one of his adventures to the next. There will be plenty of illustrations from the original stories, by a wide range of noted artists, including John Byrne, Frank Miller, Paul Smith, Dave Cockrum, Marc Silvestri, John Romita Jr., Art Adams, Barry Windsor-Smith, and John Buscema, among the numerous leading talents who have worked on X-MEN and WOLVERINE stories over the years. The art will compliment the text and be of equal importance to it, rather than as in MARVEL SAGA, where the brief lines of text served primarily to link the excerpts from various comics sequences.

There will be brand new art as well, principally the covers, for which artists such as Marc Silvestri, Terry Austin, and Rob Liefeld have already been lined up.

Though WOLVERINE SAGA by necessity covers much of the same material that George already dealt with in his X-MEN indicies, the difference is that in WOLVERINE SAGA we will be concentrating on

what happened to Wolverine in these stories. In looking through early issues of the "new" X-MEN for Wolverine sequences, several interesting subplots emerge that many readers may not have fully noticed at the time. There is Wolverine's passion for freedom, which leads him to quit the nascent Alpha Flight and proves to be of major importance in his early encounter with the villainous Mesmero. There is Wolverine's rediscovery of his ability to love through his tempestuous relationship with Jean Grey, and his growing resentment of the man she loves, X-Men team leader Scott Summers, better known as Cyclops. We see the other X-Men's dawning, sometimes horrified, realization of how savage and uncontrollable Wolverine can be, and Wolverine's own reactions to the reemergence of his killing rages, which the Canadian government had used drugs and psychiatric treatment to suppress. Sometimes his berserker rages leave him feeling depressed and shamed; other times he welcomes them joyously.

We will follow these themes in future issues, and follow others as well: Wolverine's eventual mastery of his unstable psyche in the first WOLVERINE Limited Series, his relationships with the Japanese noblewoman, Mariko, and her foster child, his ongoing blood feud with the mysterious Sabretooth, and much more. If you're intrigued by the thought of exploring Wolverine's psyche, or if you just want an overview of Wolverine's life story set down in one place, then you'll want to read WOLVERINE SAGA.

—Peter Sanderson

Art on this page is penciled by John Byrne and inked by Terry Austin.

YOU STOP GUTLESS! THIS BARGAIN BASEMENT ROGUE JUST CHOPPED AN X-MAN--
--AN' WOLVERINE'S GONNA MAKE HIM PAY FOR--
HEY!!
YOU SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOUR LEADER WHILE YOU HAD THE CHANCE, LITTLE MAN!

INDIANA JONES® and the LAST CRUSADE™

SPOILER WARNING: If you want to keep the story of Indy's greatest adventure a surprise, do not read this article! You have been warned!

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You can't keep a good man down and **Indiana Jones**, famed archeologist and adventurer, is one of the best. Having already located the Ark of the Covenant and uncovered the secrets of the Temple of Doom, Indy is set for a new adventure in search of the artifact that has stimulated and inflamed the imaginations of men and women throughout the ages—the Holy Grail. That legendary vessel from which **Jesus** drank at the Last Supper is the newest target of Indy's archeological zeal, but he's not alone. The Nazis also covet the Grail and Indy must beat them to the punch to prevent the awesome powers which reside within that special chalice from being unleashed upon an unsuspecting world.

This adventure promises to be Indy's wildest one yet. Fans of Jones will not only be able to thrill to the archeologist's adventures on the large screen, but also in Marvel's latest movie adaptation—INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE. Marvel is so enthusiastic about this project that it is making it available in two formats. First as a special 80-page Graphic Album will be released, and then, for those who like comics that look like comics, Marvel will serialize the tale as a four-issue biweekly Limited Series. And there are sound reasons for this enthusiasm. Do the names **David Michelinie**, **Bret Blevins**, and **Al Williamson** ring a bell? This talented creative team will chronicle the last adventure of everybody's favorite academic.

But can even this ultimate archeological find lure Indy from the security and quiet of the ivy-covered halls of academia. Well, ordinarily not. When **Marcus**, the museum curator for whom Jones has procured many a rare artifact, comes to him with the proposal, Indy thinks that Marcus is nuts. After all, the Grail is a myth. But one argument does move Jones into action. It seems that **Henry Jones**, Indy's father, has also been searching for the Grail—and he's disappeared! While at first, Indiana doesn't think

much about the quest for the Grail, he certainly wants to find out what happened to his dad, a noted archeologist in his own right.

And so the chase begins. Indiana meets **Walter Donovan**, who financed the expedition. Donovan seems concerned about the whereabouts of Henry Jones and serious about finding the Grail, but what, if anything, is he *really* after? And in Venice, where Henry was last seen, Indy joins forces with the lovely **Dr. Elsa Schneider**, who is fanatically devoted to finding the Grail and is not going to let anything get in her way.

Indy discovers from his father's diary, which contains voluminous amounts of lore about the Grail, that three Crusaders were left to guard the Grail. Two left and only one remains, waiting for the day when he will be relieved of his duty. Of course, finding the Grail is no easy task. Not only is the trail lost in antiquity, but there are obstacles to be overcome before one reaches the chalice and its guardian. But Indy has a leg up on the problem. An ancient tablet belonging to one of the Crusaders still exists and it gives clues on how to avoid the pitfalls on the trail leading to the Grail—if one can decipher their hidden meeting.

Before Indiana is through with his quest for his father and the Grail he will have been through the catacombs under Venice, chased over the canals of Venice by **Kazim**, a member of the fanatical Brotherhood of the Cruciform Sword, protectors of the Holy Grail, to the Castle Bruenwald on the German/Austrian border, in an aerial fight with Nazi pilots over Berlin and ultimately in the Valley of the Crescent Moon in the Middle East, the resting place of the Grail, where he meets the last Crusader and guardian of the Grail, who is still alive and believes . . . no that would be telling!

Dave Michelinie, who chronicles this movie adaptation is no stranger to Indiana Jones. He wrote Marvel's THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES book and scripted the INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM adaptation. His work at Marvel includes stints on IRON MAN, THUNDERCATS, AVENGERS, STAR WARS, BOZ CHRONICLES, WEB OF SPIDER-MAN and THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. "My biggest kick was reading the screenplay," he told MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. "It's great knowing what the movie's about before everyone else." Dave also revealed the way he approaches a movie adaptation. Sensitive to the fact that the story is not his, he attempts to keep, to the extent possible, the dialogue the same as that in the movie. "It's a matter of condensing and combining, not changing," he said, "It's more a technical process than creative." But the translation from film to comic book format takes a special knack, one which Dave has in abundance. Along with Bret Blevins and Al Williamson, Dave is putting together what is arguably Marvel's greatest movie adaptation ever. And the source material is well worth the effort.

For those of you who are interested in the inner psyche of Indiana Jones, this title is a must. For the first time, we find out something about Jones's childhood. And most importantly, we discover why he's afraid of snakes!

The comic, and, of course, the movie will be full of the usual Indiana derring-do, close calls, amazing escapes, giant explosions and the like. Fans of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* will be glad to see that Indy's friend, **Sallah**, is back. And fans of another hero-adventurer will be happy to know that Henry Jones is being played by **Sean ("James Bond") Connery**.

Indiana Jones is back again, better than ever and Marvel's got him. What more need be said?

—Sandy Hausler, J.D.

"We figured the **Punisher's** popular, and he could be popular with a whole audience that doesn't usually buy comic books," says editor **Carl Potts**. THE PUNISHER might reach places that comic books usually don't."

To a large extent, that's the thinking behind the brand new, black and white PUNISHER MAGAZINE. Sure, pretty much everyone in Marveldom is familiar with the Punisher's black and white skull insignia; at least, it seems that way from the popularity of THE PUNISHER and THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL, not to mention assorted PUNISHER graphic novels, trade paperbacks, and posters! Yet, there are still a lot of people out there who enjoy action-adventure books and movies but don't know about the Punisher, simply because they don't ordinarily follow comic books. Come this June, though, those folks will get another chance to join in on the fun thanks to the Punisher's monthly magazine!

And talk about a gangbuster of a debut, the premiere issue of the magazine will be a 64-page adaptation of the smash *Punisher* movie starring **Dolph Lundgren**! It's written by **Carl Potts** and drawn by **Brent Anderson** and it captures perfectly the gritty, fast-paced action of the film! Starting with the second issue, the magazine will continue with 48 pages and will begin re-presenting classic adventures of the Punisher from his own series, beginning with the famous 5-Part Limited Series that sparked all the excitement! So if you're missing any issues in your collection, this'll be the perfect time to fill in those gaps!

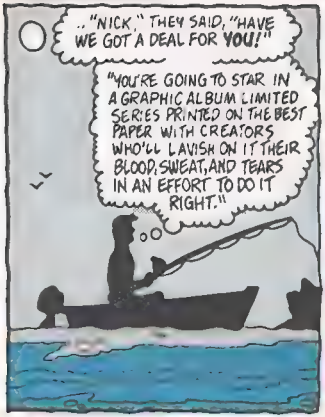
In fact, even if you did pick up the original comic books when they came out, you still might want to check out THE PUNISHER MAGAZINE. As Carl points out, "a lot of people find it fascinating to see detailed line work in black and white." Some fine detail can get obscured when comics art is printed in color, but black and white lets it all shine through. And considering how much detail PUNISHER artists such as **Klaus Janson**, **Dave Ross**, and **Whilce Portacio** usually include in their work, Carl modestly observes, "The magazine should look pretty good."

To complete the package, each issue will sport a brand new, fully painted cover featuring the Punisher at his two-fisted best. The first cover portrays the Punisher with guns blazing, as rendered by **Mark Texeira** over pencils by Mike Zeck, the penciler whose PUNISHER Limited Series spawned THE PUNISHER and THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL in the first place! Future plans call for striking portraits by more top talents, including **Joe Chiodo** and **Steve Rude**.

When you put all of that together, it looks like a sure thing that THE PUNISHER MAGAZINE's going to be a hit with Marveldom assembled. But what about all of those fighting men and weekend warriors who've never heard of the Punisher before? Well, we don't want to get our hopes up too high, but Carl did notice something interesting recently: "In the place where I play paintball (a war game in which players' guns are loaded with paint pellets), they only carry one comic book—the black and white 'NAM MAGAZINE!"

Hmmm . . . Do you suppose we could manage to make it two out of two?

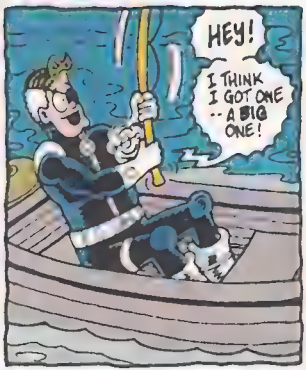
—Shelly Fisch


.."NICK," THEY SAID, "HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!"
"YOU'RE GOING TO STAR IN A GRAPHIC ALBUM LIMITED SERIES PRINTED ON THE BEST PAPER WITH CREATORS WHO'LL LAVISH ON IT THEIR BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS IN AN EFFORT TO DO IT RIGHT."

"NICK," THEY SAID, "THIS CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT STORY WILL LEAD TO THE ELIMINATION OF AL THE BAD APPLES THAT HAVE CROPPED UP IN S.H.I.E.L.D. IN RECENT YEARS."

WELL, HOW COULD I S
AFTER ALL, I'D BEEN IN
FOR FAR TOO LONG, LIN
QUICKIE CAMEOS HER
THERE IN SOME OF MA
MORE..ahem...
POPULAR
BOOKS.

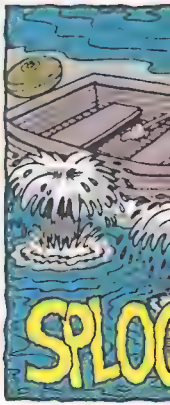
Sigh
AT LEAST THEY LET ME KEEP THIS SUIT.
WORKS PRETTY GOOD FOR SCUBA DIVING...


HEY!
I THINK I GOT ONE -- A BIG ONE!

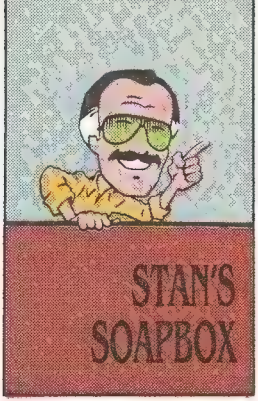
DUM DUM DUGAN

--I JUST GOTTA DANCE!
uh, NICK, YOU BETTER WATCH OU--

YOW
OW
OW--


SPLOO

SAY NO?
D LIMBO
TED TO
E AND
RVEL'S
MAYBE I WOULDN'T A' BEEN SO QUICK TO ACCEPT IF THEY'D SAID," NICK, AT THE SERIES END, THERE AIN'T GONNA BE ANY S.H.I.E.L.D. LEFT, AND OH YEAH, COINCIDENTALLY, YOU'LL BE OUTTA A JOB."
MAYBE I WOULDA SAID "NO" IF I KNEW THEY WUZ GONNA SAY, "NICK, HERE'S A ONE WAY TICKET TO AN ISLAND SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, A LEAGE ON A BOAT, AND A FISHING POLE. SORRY, YOU'LL HAVE TO PROVIDE YOUR OWN WORMS."
...TALK ABOUT WORMS.
?!?
...
QUICK-- REEL ME IN, NICK-- I GOT GREAT NEWS!
THEY WANT US BACK, NICK!
eh?
MARVEL WANTS TO START UP A NEW S.H.I.E.L.D. SERIES-- AIN'T THAT GREAT??
WAH-HOO!!
THAT'S MUSIC TO MY SHELL-LIKE EARS, YA OLD WALRUS, AND WHEN I HEAR MUSIC--
OSH!
...I KNEW I SHOULDA BROUGHT MY SNORKEL...



Hi, heroes! It's good news/bad news time again!

The good news is—the return of S.H.I.E.L.D.! The bad news is—some of you didn't even know it was gone! I mean, what with all the times our high-flyin' international agents have guest-starred in countless other Marvel mags, who could blame you for not realizing they didn't have a book of their own?

Well, that grievous oversight has been dutifully corrected. All you fans of high-tech, razzle-dazzle, two-fisted action now have cause to celebrate. The merry mismatched misfits of the Supreme Headquarters International Espionage Law-Enforcement Division are back at last! (And if you're wondering how I can still remember what S.H.I.E.L.D. stands for, I'll let you in on a little secret—I'm the guy who made up that nutty acronym a couple of decades ago!)

Naturally, our new S.H.I.E.L.D. series will star that gentle, soft-spoken, peace-loving homebody, none other than tender-hearted **Nick Fury**—the thunderbolt that walks like a man! But, since this will be the start of a new series, created for a new generation of readers, Fury's awe-some array of agents will be a whole new group of hard-living, hard-fighting heroes! Don't ask me to tell you who they are. Wild horses couldn't pry that information from me. It's not because I'm good at keeping secrets—it's 'cause I just don't know! So I'll be as eager to glom onto the first issue as you. But while we're both waiting, let me tell you something unusual about ol' Nick Fury.

Those of you who go 'way back to the beginnings of Marvel may re-member the first time Nick Fury ap-peared in his own mag. No, it wasn't a S.H.I.E.L.D. story. It was a saga of World War II called "SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS"! That's right, Nick was just a humble three-striper at that time, just like Yours Truly was in WWII—except that Mrs. Fury's son, Nicholas, saw a lot more combat than I ever did! In fact, considering how many stories we did about him, he saw a lot more combat than any-body ever did!

But that's not the unusual part. We're coming to it now.

The SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS series was originally created on a bet! Someone told us, during those early days at the bullpen, that there was no way anybody could successfully publish a magazine of war stories. The theory was that no-body wanted to read war stories. Well, you know us. Tell a Marvelite that something's impossible, and he'll knock himself out proving you're wrong! So we created and published Fury's World War II adventures, and they became a smash hit.

Okay, prepare yourself! We're sneak-ing up on the unusual part!

After a while, we began to get a zillion letters and phone calls, all asking the same question, "If Nick Fury was a sergeant years ago in World War II, what's happened to him since? Is he alive today? And if so, what's he doing now?"

That's when it happened. I called a meeting of our vast, globe-girdling staff (the two or three guys who were still hanging around the office past quitting time) and we decided to do a whole new series of Nick Fury which would take place in the present. And that's how S.H.I.E.L.D. was born!

I can picture you now, mumbling to yourself, "Big deal! So what's so un-usual?" Here's the answer . . .

To the best of my knowledge (and you know how legendary my font of knowledge is!) there has never been a comic book hero (or any other kind of hero) who was the star of two separate series which took place at two totally different times in his life! Remember, the SGT. FURY series and the S.H.I.E.L.D. series were both published concurrently for many many issues until we finally dropped the World War II series because we were getting shell-shocked!

And there you have it! Marvel's own Nick Fury is the only fictional character to have been a popular, best-selling hero in two totally different series, each taking place about twenty years apart!

Now, having come to the end of this awesome little adventure into culture, it's No-Prize time! Tell us who you think should play Nick Fury if and when we do a S.H.I.E.L.D. movie. Send your nominations to **Slim-Jim Salicrup**, editor of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE (who'll kill me for this!) and we'll an-nounce the lucky No-Prize winner in a future column. Here's your chance to be an ad hoc casting director, so let's see how you do!

And, while we await your choices with bated breath, you must promise never to forget or misspell those im-perishable words of the poet **Virgil**, "Audentes fortuna juvat!"

Excelsior!

Stan

WILLIE LUMPKIN

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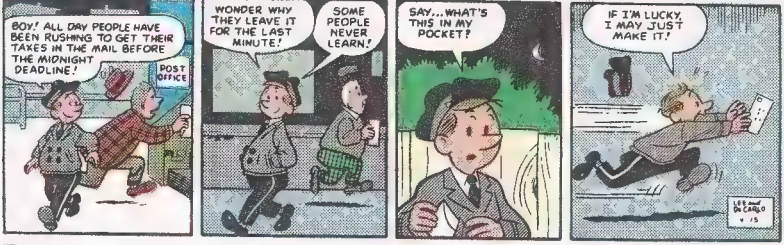

BOY! ALL DAY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN RUSHING TO GET THEIR TAXES IN THE MAIL BEFORE THE MIDNIGHT DEADLINE!
POST OFFICE
WONDER WHY THEY LEAVE IT FOR THE LAST MINUTE!
SOME PEOPLE NEVER LEARN!
SAY...WHAT'S THIS IN MY POCKET?
IF I'M LUCKY, I MAY JUST MAKE IT!

DON'T YIELD, BACK SHIELD™

So you say you're looking for hard-hitting, action packed espionage and intrigue? You've got a craving for sophisticated weaponry, secret spy cartels, and death lurking behind every corner? Well, don't worry; you needn't sign up for the C.I.A.—you'll soon be able to find all those thrills and more in every monthly issue of S.H.I.E.L.D.!

The story of **S.H.I.E.L.D.** began back in the Sixties when **Stan Lee** and **Jack Kirby** decided to take their howlin' World War II hero, **Sergeant Nick Fury** and reveal what he was doing today. The sergeant had become Colonel Nick Fury, director of a top-secret, international intelligence agency and the most high-tech spy this side of **James Bond**! When insidious, covert organizations such as **Hydra** and the super-scientific **A.I.M.** made their bids for world domination, Nick and his faithful comrades (a mixed bag of top agents, including his beautiful but deadly girlfriend, Val, and his old Army corporal, **Dum Dum Dugan**,) were the planet's last hope.

But times change, and as we learned in the NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. Limited Series, the ol' Supreme Headquarters for International Espionage-Law-enforcement Division simply wasn't what it used to be. Nick stumbled across corruption at the highest levels of S.H.I.E.L.D., and before he knew it, he was being hunted down by the very agents he'd trained! By the end of the series, Nick even discovered that S.H.I.E.L.D. was being run by the same people who were behind A.I.M. and Hydra!

Clearly, S.H.I.E.L.D. had grown out of hand, and in the end, all Nick could do was shut the agency down completely.

But can the world survive without S.H.I.E.L.D.? Fortunately, we may never have to find out, thanks to the all-new S.H.I.E.L.D. monthly series!

"When the series starts out, there's no S.H.I.E.L.D.," explains editor **Greg Wright**. "The agents have been debriefed. Nick and Val have split up. Nick has taken refuge in an upstate fishing village and is living with **Kate Neville**, the mistress of efficient killing from the Limited Series. Val is working for the C.I.A. Nick's old friends, **Gabe** and Dum Dum, are retired. And **Pierce**, the gung-ho agent who idolized Nick, is minding the S.H.I.E.L.D. central headquarters because he idolized Nick Fury and he hasn't figured out what to do with himself yet."

Meanwhile, the world's governments have come to realize that with so many covert organizations still trying to take over the world, they desperately need S.H.I.E.L.D. Their only problem is that Nick, embittered by the recent past, refuses to put the agency back together again!

All of that changes pretty quickly, though, once Nick's old wartime enemies, the **Death's Head Commandos**, decide to take advantage of the situation. Now that S.H.I.E.L.D. can't protect Nick, the Commandos figure that they can finally take revenge for all the times he thwarted them back in World War II! The Commandos strike hard, first at the people closest to Nick, and then at Nick himself! But the attacks have an unexpected effect, as Nick realizes that he can't just walk away from his past. At last, Nick agrees to reassemble S.H.I.E.L.D. . . . but on his terms!

"The new S.H.I.E.L.D. is basically a smaller version under Nick's control," Greg says. "It still works mostly for America although it's international, and it still has government connections. But it's not answerable to any government. They need Nick Fury, so a deal is cut where he'll have the cooperation he needs but there'll be no questions asked."

The first few issues show Nick's attempts at assembling his new team. There'll be quite a few familiar faces on board, and a bunch of new ones as well. You'll meet S.H.I.E.L.D.'s new communications and computer expert, **Network Nina**, and perhaps the first S.H.I.E.L.D. agent from the **Black Panther**'s Kingdom of Wakanda. But one new agent may pose a bit of a surprise for Nick and the gang; they don't know that he's one of the robotic Life Model Decoys whose conspiracy destroyed S.H.I.E.L.D. in the Limited Series—and nearly cost our heroes their lives!

As if that weren't bad enough, an array of old S.H.I.E.L.D. villains are waiting in the wings as well. The supreme leader of Hydra, **Madame Hydra**, is back—and she's gone completely insane! Yet, even if Nick and his crew survive their encounter with her, they're still going to have to deal with perhaps their most dangerous foe ever—that insidious master of menace, the **Yellow Claw**! And considering that the claw's past schemes have involved giant monsters and reanimating the dead, we'll leave it to you to imagine how he can possibly top himself this time!

All of these developments add up to some big changes in S.H.I.E.L.D.'s future. So it's only logical that the creative team responsible is almost the same as the one that turned the organization's status quo upside down in the Limited Series. Scripter **Bob Harras** is back, as are inker **Kim DeMulder** and colorist **Bernie Jay**. Unfortunately, other commitments prevent Limited Series penciler **Paul Neary** from coming back as well, but Greg's quite pleased with the folks he's found to take Paul's place! "When Paul couldn't do it, I decided to try a slightly different art direction. I'd worked with **Bob Hall** before and I felt he'd have a really good grip on the character. With Bob, there's more emphasis on intrigue since he's coming from an acting and theatrical background as a director."

But no sooner had Bob finished the first issue than fate struck again. "Due to unforeseen circumstances—which we didn't foresee," Greg chuckles, "Bob's theatrical commitments didn't allow him to continue, so we needed yet another artist." After a hasty search, Greg settled on another artist he'd worked with before—FANTASTIC FOUR penciler **Keith Pollard**! "I always liked Keith's work," Greg recalls, "and I thought his pencils and Kim's inks would go well together." Judging from the results so far, they sure do!

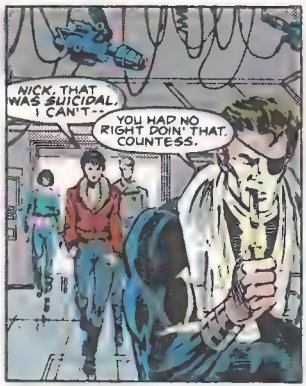
With the way the series is shaping up (not to mention the NICK FURY-WOLVERINE: THE SCORPIO CONNECTION Graphic Novel which we'll be previewing soon in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE), Greg has high hopes for the future of S.H.I.E.L.D. But when asked how he felt about the new series overall, he paused. After a quick conference with assistant editor **Sara Tuchinsky**, he said, "I don't like giving quotes, so here's Sara's: 'It's rootin'-tootin', lickety-split spy action the way I like it!'"

What more can we say?

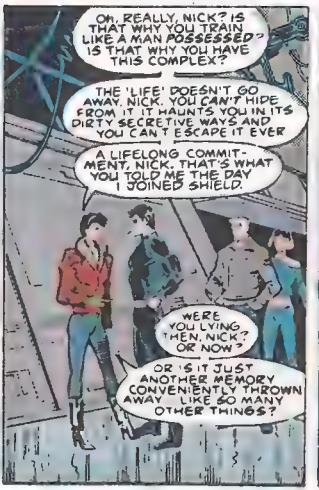
—Shelly Fisch

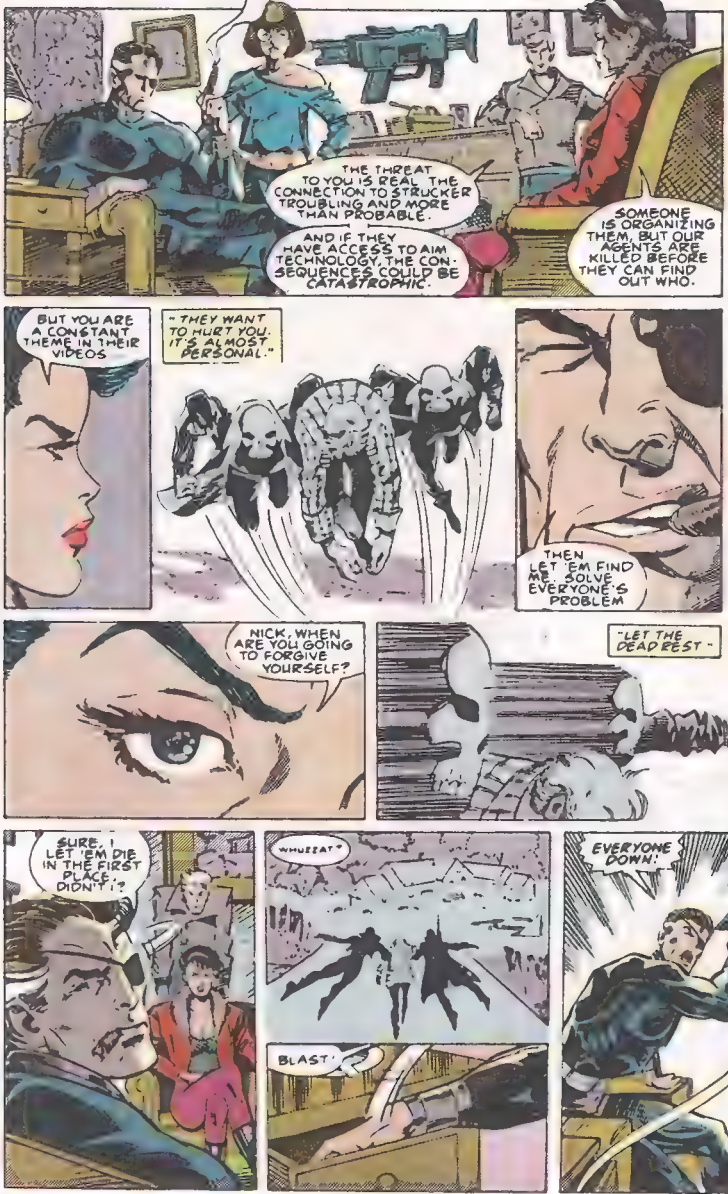
S.H.I.E.L.D. PREVIEW

The Death's Head Commandos have killed several top C.I.A. operatives and captured Nick Fury's best friend, Dum Dum Dugan. Nick Fury is their next target. Nick's ex-girlfriend, Val, together with her lover, Al MacKenzie, both of the C.I.A., fly to Nick's safehouse in Nova Scotia to warn him. There they discover Fury obsessively training in his high tech combat exercise room at the suicidal program setting of Level Seven. Horrified, Val swiftly utters the disengage command. There is a moment of tense silence, then . . .



ALL RIGHT, LET'S KEEP THIS OFF'CIAL. YOU'RE NEEDED
A EUROPEAN TERROR'ST GROUP HAS ASSASSINATED SEVERAL OF OUR OPERATIVES, AND--


OH, REALLY, NICK? IS THAT WHY YOU TRAIN LIKE A MAN POSSESSED? IS THAT WHY YOU HAVE THIS COMPLEX?
THE 'LIFE' DOESN'T GO AWAY, NICK. YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM IT. IT HAUNTS YOU IN IT'S DIRTY SECRETIVE WAYS AND YOU CAN'T ESCAPE IT EVER
A LIFELONG COMMIT-MENT, NICK. THAT'S WHAT YOU TOLD ME THE DAY I JOINED SHIELD.
WERE YOU LYING THEN, NICK? OR NOW?
OR IS IT JUST ANOTHER MEMORY CONVENIENTLY THROWN AWAY LIKE SO MANY OTHER THINGS?


THE THREAT TO YOU IS REAL. THE CONNECTION TO STRUCKER TROUBLING AND MORE THAN PROBABLE.
AND IF THEY HAVE ACCESS TO AIM TECHNOLOGY, THE CONSEQUENCES COULD BE CATASTROPHIC.
SOMEONE IS ORGANIZING THEM, BUT OUR AGENTS ARE KILLED BEFORE THEY CAN FIND OUT WHO.
BUT YOU ARE A CONSTANT THEME IN THEIR VIDEOS
"THEY WANT TO HURT YOU. IT'S ALMOST PERSONAL."
THEN LET 'EM FIND ME. SOLVE EVERYONE'S PROBLEM
NICK, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO FORGIVE YOURSELF?
"LET THE DEAD REST."
SURE. I LET 'EM DIE IN THE FIRST PLACE, DIDN'T I?
WHUZZAT?
BLAST!
EVERYONE DOWN!

A GESTURE OF ELEGANT FLUIDITY...
...RIPPED OUT WITH MASTERY OF ACTION BY THE CARNIVOTWINS
A GESTURE THAT...WITH THUNDERING VIOLENCE
GOOD LORD! IT'S THEM
IT'S PERCEPTIVE MACKENZIE
NOW SHUT UP AND BLOW SMOLT OFF THE SKY

BUT THE AIR IS THEIR ELEMENT, TO DODGE, TO WEAVE, TO DANCE...
...AND TO THEM, EARTH-BOUND ARTILLERY IS A SILLY, USELESS THING...
WHOA! I HATE THIS!
I REALLY REALLY DO!
THIS IS IMPOSS-IBLE!
LET'S SEE HOW THEY HANDLE THIS BABY!
KABAM
"I NEVER MISSED AT THE ACADEMY!"
SORRY, KATE... THIS ISN'T MID-TERMS!
NICK, THEY CAN HIT US ANY TIME THEY WANT!
YEAH.
SO WHY AIN'T THEY?
BAM

THEY'RE NOT EVEN TRYIN'
THEY'RE TOYIN' WITH US.
NICK! WHAT ARE YOU—
C'MON, YOU YA-HOOS YOU CAME FOR ME?
THEN GET ME!
WITH A COLD SUDDENESS, THE BARRAGE STOPS AND A SILENCE FALLS AS THE DANCERS DROP FROM THE SKY
AND FINALLY, THEY SPEAK...
...IN STRANGELY ACCENTED VOICES...
...THAT HINT OF OTHER PLACES AND OTHER TIMES...
HERE, NICHOLAS FURY, THE FIRST IN OUR BLOOD DEBT.
THERE WILL BE OTHERS, OUR ENEMY, FOR THE YEARS ARE NOTHING TO US.
IN UNISON, THEY SPOKE.
...AND LINKED NOW HAND-IN-HAND, THEY SOAR INTO THE DARKENING SKY.

Whoops! Preview's over! Don't miss the first issue of S.H.I.E.L.D. on sale soon!

A SAILOR'S STORY 2: Winds, Dreams, and Dragons

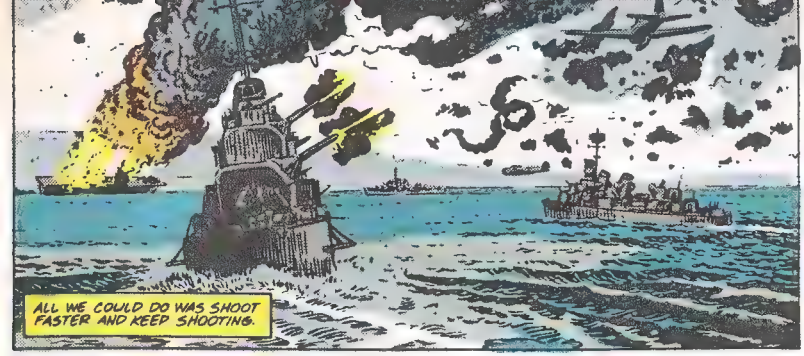
A Soldier's Story is a 1985 movie about a murder of a black man at a military base. A SAILOR'S STORY is a 1987 Marvel Graphic Novel about life on a fighting ship in World War II.

The two have absolutely nothing to do with each other, but are often mixed up because of the similarity in their titles. Anyone who is still not clear about the difference will have a second chance when Marvel releases A SAILOR'S STORY 2: WINDS, DREAMS, AND DRAGONS.

Sam Glanzman, who wrote and drew the first SAILOR'S STORY book, does the same honors for the sequel. The graphic novels are based on Sam's experiences in the Navy, and are completely autobiographical. The lead character is even named "Sam."

Describing the difference between the two SAILOR'S STORY books, Sam said, "The first one was more about the men and the ships. The second one has more of the battles, more of the war."

The major focus in the second graphic novel is on the fearsome new weapon the increasingly desperate Japanese begin to use in 1944—the



kamikaze. "Kamikaze" is Japanese for "divine wind," and originally referred to the typhoon which destroyed Kublai Khan's Chinese fleet as it was preparing to invade Japan. The modern "divine wind" of destruction would be man-made—human volunteers who would soar into the skies in airplanes and then plunge their bomb-laden aircraft into the ships of the American fleet.

The story begins shortly before the kamikaze is introduced, and then relates how the men of the U.S.S. *Stevens* react and adapt to one of the most horrifying weapons of the war. What made the kamikaze so frightening a weapon was the unshakable willingness of the pilots to die in the service of their country. As editor **Don Daley** said, "For the Japanese, the bravest, most honorable thing a man could do was to climb inside a plane loaded with bombs and drop it on an enemy ship."

WINDS, DREAMS, AND DRAGONS is an unusual title for a book about war, but it actually relates very closely to the story.

"Winds" refers not only to the "divine wind" of the kamikaze, but also to the warm Pacific breezes that blew across the warships.

"Dreams" refers to the sailors' dreams of home and plans for the future.

And "Dragons" are the kamikaze airplanes themselves.

Sam Glanzman's career in comics has spanned many decades. And most of his work has been in the war story field. Glanzman readily admitted that it was a conscious decision on his part. "But then," he added, "I may be prejudiced because I was in the service. War is my specialty, though."

It's a specialty that has brought Sam much acclaim for his accuracy and gritty storytelling. One reason for Sam's accuracy is the scrapbook of sketches and stories about the war that he made while in the service. It is this scrapbook which provided the inspiration for the two SAILOR'S STORY graphic novels.

Don, who also edits Marvel's other war comic, THE 'NAM, said that working with Sam has taught him quite a bit about how to do war comics. "I made some very casual editorial comments to Sam, and these elicited a wealth of information from him in terms of how an artist approaches composition, continuity, and pacing in the military genre, and why it's different from super hero comics. I'm not sure what Sam has learned, but I've learned a lot!"

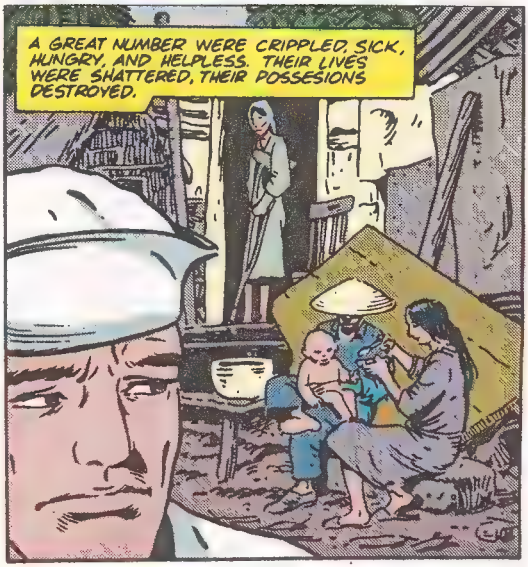
Comics editors aren't the only ones who can learn from A SAILOR'S STORY. The graphic novel has plenty to offer for anyone who likes blazing action made all the more gripping by the fact that it is a real-life drama.

So now you know what to do. If you want to see an Oscar-nominated movie starring **Howard E. Rollins, Jr.**, go rent a video-cassette of *A Soldier's Story*.

And if you want to read a graphic novel by one of the foremost writer/artists of war comics, pick up a copy of A SAILOR'S STORY 2: WINDS, DREAMS, AND DRAGONS.

Or do both! Whatever you do, you owe it to yourself to pick up a copy of this graphic novel. It could just open up a new world of comics for you.

—Barry Dutter



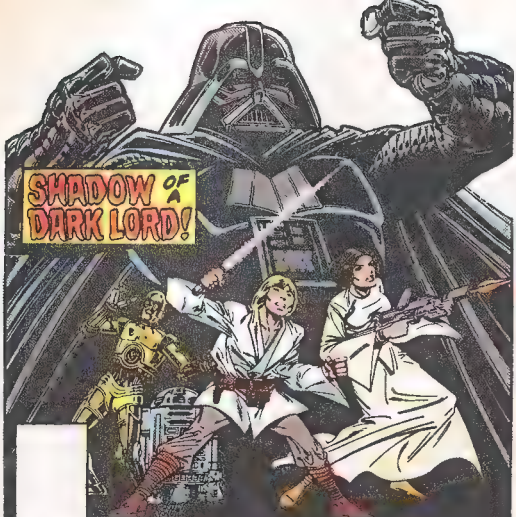
THE MARVEL® AGE OF COMICS: 1979 PART II

1979 was a significant year for Marvel in that it explored a new direction—comics series based on popular toys. Three of these series debuted in 1979, making for an important change in the marketplace—as well as adding exciting new chapters to the Marvel mythos!

Most successful of the new series was THE MICRONAUTS, brainchild of the writer and artist team **Bill Mantlo** and **Mike Golden**. Mantlo envisioned a whole fantasy universe around the toys his daughter played with—the Microverse—and so the exiled heroes of Homeworld fled the Microverse to arrive on Earth as six-inch-tall refugees! Issue #1 introduced **Commander Rann** and his apocalyptic alter egos, the **Time Travelers; Princess Mari**, aka **Marionette**; the warriors **Acroyear** and **Bug**; the robots **Biotron** and **Microtron**; and the ruthlessly evil **Baron Karza**. Karza pursued the Micronauts as they landed in Daytona Beach, sought out the help of ex-astronaut **Ray Coffin** and his son, **Steve**; and encountered both the extra-dimensional Prometheus Pit and the muck-monster known as the **Man-Thing!** The decisive point in the turmoil came when the Time Traveler endowed Ray Coffin with the power of **Captain Universe**, and Acroyear merged with the worldmind of his home planet, Spartak, to drive back Karza's dog soldiers. Rann drew on the power of the Enigma Force to send Baron Karza to death—or so it seemed! The MICRONAUTS ANNUAL featured **Steve Ditko** art as Mantlo delved into the hidden past of the miniature marauders. Debuting a month later were the SHOGUN WARRIORS, huge Japanese robots commanded by human pilots to take on menaces that would leave conventional forces helpless! **Combatra, Raydeen,** and **Dangard Ace** were sent into battle by the magisterial **Dr. Tambura** against the monstrous **Maur-Kon** and his **Elementals of Evil**. Their other foes included the bizarre **Rok-Korr,** the lethal **Mech-Monster**, the many-headed menace of **Cerberus**, and the alien terror called the **Starchild**. The craze that would help sweep TRANSFORMERS to stardom began here in a run of action-packed tales by **Doug Moench** and **Herb Trimpe**.

Third of the licensed toys to hit the comics racks, in the parting moments of 1979, was ROM. Another **Bill Mantlo** project, art on **Rom** was handled by **Sal Buscema**. His premiere episode, "Arrival," introduced Rom's constant love, **Brandy Clark**, the legend of the **Spaceknights**, and their too-disgusting-for-words antagonists, the **Dire Wraiths**. These mind-sucking aliens had infiltrated all levels of human society! ROM succeeded by depicting a horrific paranoia infecting small towns like Clairton, West Virginia—whom could you trust? Who might secretly be a Dire Wraith?

Speaking of licensed properties, the Moench/Trimpe team was wrapping up the run of another such Japanese influenced adventure series: GODZILLA. As 1979 opened, the big green guy had been shrunk by **Dr. Henry Pym** to the size of a rat, and was in fact battling rats deep in the New York sewers! As Pym's shrinking serum wore off, **Godzilla** slowly grew again—first to human size, where S.H.I.E.L.D. agents **Dum Dum Dugan** and **Gabe Jones** could fight him on their own terms! Society was then rescued from the restored Godzilla by means of the **FF**'s time machine, which sent the big G back to the time of **Devil Dinosaur**! After some prehistoric frolics, a primitive shaman conjured the king of the monsters back to the present, where the **Avengers** seemed helpless to prevent Godzilla from running amok in New York, until the ingenuity of **Yellowjacket** and the **Wasp** toppled Godzilla into the ocean. And in the final issue, young **Rob Takiguchi** persuaded Godzilla to remain in the ocean, to leave us in peace and swim



STAR WARS TM and © 1989 Lucasfilm, Ltd.

out of sight forever more.

The properties licensed from Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. — namely TARZAN and JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS — also called it a day in '79. **Tarzan** discovered the underground world of savage Pellucidar in the all-original **David Kraft** and **John Buscema** serial, "Blood Money and Human Bondage," as he wrote finis to the menace of **the Mad Arab**. Thereupon, Tarzan, **Jane**, and their lions were captured by showmen, and exhibited in New York City as the captive wildman and his brood! Their escape from New York and castaway voyage back to Africa concluded the series, as the TARZAN ANNUAL brought hordes of ant-men and she-devils into combat against **Lord John Clayton**.

Tarzan had it easy, though, compared to **John Carter**, who was up to his harness in banths, winged killers, evil **Jeddaks**, and death marathons, as the **Chris Claremont** and **Ernie Colón** novel, "The Master Assassin of Mars" reached its thrilling climax! John saved his princess, the incomparable **Dejah Thoris**, from more than one of the sinister plots of the **Guild of Assassins**, and would only need to survive two one-parters, "Amazons of Mars," before going to well-deserved rest in his Helium palace.

The real-life stuntman, THE HUMAN FLY, was the last licensed character to end his run that year, with a trio of tales involving motorcycle stunts and carnival action. Helping to defend Southwest American Indians from a band of rapacious white hoodlums, the **Human Fly**'s final exploits were chronicled, as ever, by **Harmony Whyte**, the sharp, beautiful newshound who began by mistrusting the Human Fly until she got to know the heart of the man behind the mask.

But new series always spring up to replace the old, and 1979 was no exception. Everybody's favorite living robot, MACHINE MAN, got his own series back at last, thanks to the writer and artist team of **Marv Wolfman** and **Steve Ditko. Aaron Stack**'s foes included the **Binary Bug** and his perennial nemesis, **Senator Brickman**, while in his third exploit he unwittingly gave godlike powers to a quintet of mysterious beings!

Also premiering was one more media tie-in: BATTLESTAR GALACTICA! Adapting the characters for comics from the hit space fantasy TV show, **Roger Mackenzie** and Ernie Colón presented **Commander Adama** and his allies in combat against the evil **Cylons**, first serializing BATTLESTAR's pilot, and following with a host of new adventures.

The popularity of space fantasy, of course, came from STAR WARS, which continued its smash success as a Marvel Comic! **Archie Goodwin** and **Carmine Infantino** wove a complex web of intrigue as **Han, Leia,** and **Chewbacca** strove to outwit **Senator Greyshade, Master-Com,** and the forces of the **Wheel**! An untold tale of **Ben Kenobi** added variety, and **Valance**, the cyborg bounty hunter with a hatred of droids, rose as a new threat, not only to our heroes but also to **Darth Vader** himself! **Luke Skywalker**, meanwhile, was featured in the first STAR WARS ANNUAL.

Next month: the one licensed property we haven't mentioned in 1979, **Conan the Barbarian**! And as we look at Conan in both his comics and magazine incarnations, we'll also review the Marvel magazines of the time, which took off in bold new directions! Till then, take a look around your rec room — as we've seen this month, anything in there might be adapted into the next Marvel hit!

— Brian Nelson

MARVEL® COMICS PRICE GUIDE

It pays to be prepared. Someday you'll find yourself on JEOPARDY or some other game show, and when you find yourself calling, "Back Issue Comics Prices for $300," these columns will be invaluable! Of course, that's in addition to their worth as a reference so you know what a comics specialty shop is likely to charge for the Marvel classics we've covered this month. As always, our source is **Robert Overstreet**'s THE COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE #18. But remember: this is only a guide. Actual prices may vary, and should be less for copies in fair or poor condition.

	CONDITION		
	Good	Fine	Mint
■ **BATTLESTAR: GALACTICA**			
1		.35	.70
2-10		.25	.50
■ **GODZILLA**			
18-24		.30	.60
■ **HUMAN FLY**			
17-19		.25	.50
■ **JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS**			
20-28		.25	.50
ANNUAL 3		.40	.80
■ **MACHINE MAN**			
10-12		.30	.60
■ **MICRONAUTS**			
1	.40	1.25	2.50
2-5		.60	1.20
6-12		.45	.90
ANNUAL 1 (Ditko cover/art)	.30	.90	1.80
■ **ROM**			
1	.60	1.75	3.50
■ **SHOGUN WARRIORS**			
1		.40	.80
2-11		.25	.50
■ **STAR WARS**			
19-20, **ANNUAL 1**	.35	1.00	2.00
21-30	.25	.75	1.50
■ **TARZAN**			
20-29			
ANNUAL 3		.25	.50

THOR-TY SOMETHING

Send your letters to: MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, c/o Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info on request!

This month's progressive, '80s-type letters column comes to us from Shawn McAmis of East Detroit, Michigan. Thanks, Shawn! Your title really fits in with our new lifestyle. Let's do lunch.

Incidentally, before we lace up our Reeboks, swallow that last mouthful of Tofu 'n' Bran, and dive into this month's mail, we want to remind everybody out there that we still need a nifty new title for this letter column each and every month (what else is new?). So send 'em on in! If we use your idea, we'll even print your name in this space as our way of saying "thanks." Gee, almost as good as a shiny new Gold Card, isn't it?

Dear Marvel,

I don't know if you've noticed, but back issue prices on the LONGSHOT Limited Series are skyrocketing. I found one company where you can buy the whole set for seventy dollars. This is too steep for us common people. That's a week's pay for me. In light of this, here's my question: Is there a chance of a trade paperback version reprinting this mega-popular limited series? If so, could you tell us when?

Also, I have a few questions about what's going to happen to Longshot. Will he be leaving the X-Men when his series starts? This would be an odd change. What about Dazzler; will she leave if her boyfriend does?

I'd also like to say that I think you should have a WOLVERINE/LONGSHOT Limited Series.

Maverik
1402 E. Guadalupe
Teupe, AZ 85283

Sorry, Maverik, no plans for a WOLVERINE/LONGSHOT Limited Series just now. But before you get too disappointed, would it make you feel any better to know that there's a LONGSHOT Trade Paperback on the way? Yup, before you know it, you'll be able to get a copy of the entire six-part limited series that introduced the world's luckiest mutant, collected in a long-lasting paperback edition! You might even want to buy an extra copy to leave in a time capsule for future generations.

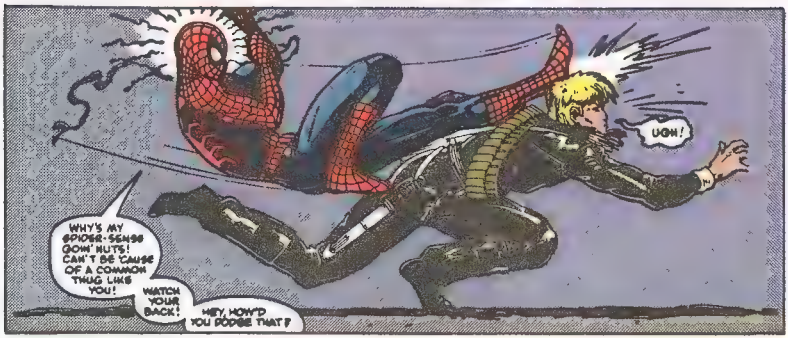
As for your questions about Longshot leaving the X-Men, well, you don't really think we could give away those sorts of top-secret plot twists, do you? Guess you'll have to just keep following THE X-MEN for a while to learn the answers. But y'know, somehow, we don't think you'll mind all that much . . .

And now, let's take a moment for a public service message:

Dear Jim,

As everybody who reads comics has at one time considered writing them, and as most of the "how-to" articles tell how to draw them, I thought I'd aid all would-be writers by compiling a list of ten quotes essential for any comic book series:

1. "It can't be! You're supposed to be dead!"
2. "You fool, have you no idea whom you face?"
3. "Only in New York. . ."
4. "I've done it! Now no one can stop me!!"



5. "Oh my God, J. Jonah Jameson was right! He/She is a menace!"

6. "Nothing can withstand my power! You are helpless!"

7. "He's dead!! And it's all my fault!!"

8. "At last, we meet again!!"

9. "No matter what I do, I lose!"

10. "No! You can't have turned against us! Not you!"

I hope this will prove useful to all would-be **Millers, Byrnes,** and **Lees.** I'm working on a list of ten comic book titles, so "Look out, world . . ."

(Could that be eleven?)

Rol Hirst
Rushgrove Farm
Slaithwaite
Huddersfield
W. Yorks
England

Thanks for the helpful info, Rol. It'll come in real handy for a new story we're working on at the moment, "When Titans Clash!" Let us know if we can return the favor some time.

But you know, one thing still puzzles us: To save you, why must we kill you?

Look, there's that familiar yellow streak again! No, don't worry; it doesn't mean we've suddenly turned coward. It just means it's time for our LETTER OF THE MONTH! As you probably know by now, we burrow through our mountains of mail each month and come up with a letter or two which we think will be of particular interest to the rampant hordes of Marveldom. Then we take the lucky letter and print it against a snappy yellow background to make sure it gets the attention it deserves.

Actually, we've got two Letters of the Month this time around, both asking a question which we've heard quite a bit over the years. Let's see what it is, shall we?

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

Can I visit your offices at 387 Park Avenue South? What I mean is, could I or any other person just walk in off the street and just take a look around, or do we get stopped at the door by a guy who is too big, too mean, and too ugly and who tells you to get out? Or do you have set tours around the building, or do you guys don't want nobody to come around and see your pad?

Larry T. Johnson
555 Montague Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

I'm thinking of going to New York this summer and want to visit the Marvel offices. I need to know when you guys offer tours of the place so I can show up at the right time.

Ian L. Courchesne
RFD #1
Lyndonville, VT 05851

No, Larry, there's no too big, too mean guy at our door. We're much too nice for that . . . although there are those savage dobermans, of course. Sorry, though, we're afraid we can't let people just walk in off the street and look around our offices. After all, we have enough trouble getting our work done as it is. Imagine what it'd be like if we had visitors stopping in all the time!

Still, don't give up hope! We do indeed offer tours of our palatial (or at least tidy) offices every Friday. The tours tend to be booked up quite a ways in advance, though, so if you're planning to be in the New York area (like Ian), don't just show up for the tour. Be sure to call Marvel at least a month or two in advance so that we can be sure to squeeze you into one of the tour groups. Okay? See you soon!

Marvel madmen,

Marvel moderately molds my memories; moreover, Marvel's magazines masticate malevolent media. Mighty miscellanies make misshapen monsters mediatory myths. Minus multitudinous melancholy mutants maliciously mutilated—moreover, mercilessly massacred—Marvel might make more money. Magical Marvel mandates magnificence, making mass Marvel mania march many million miles. Mostly, Marvel's many merry men manufacture memorable messages. Make mine Marvel!

Adam Kadri and Matt Bowman
Fullerton, CA

Gosh! Gobs of gracious gratitude from the whole gang, guys! Got some genuine gems there—great going!

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

I started collecting comics last summer and I think Marvel is the best line out. When I used to live in the United States, I was able to run to the 7-11 and buy some comics, but here it's a totally different story. I live near Monte Carlo and I've been to all the local cities—Nice, Cannes, and of course, Monte Carlo. But I haven't been able to find any comics of yours other than the ones published in French, namely, STRANGE, G.I. JOE, and SPIDEY, which haven't done me much good because they're out of date. For example, in the ALPHA FLIGHT section in STRANGE, **Roger Bochs** is still alive and **Sasquatch** is still orange; also, I don't understand the language much. Please tell me of any stores you distribute to so I can go there.

Julian Garbaccio
Chateau de Lamer
Rue Gabriel Hanoteux
Roquebrune Martain
France

Well, Julian, we imagine that it's just a matter of time till the fine folks at Comics USA, Semic France, and Editions Guy Delcourte (who publish the French editions of our comics) catch up to where you were up to when you moved. But if you think you can't wait that long, there's always the option of subscribing to your favorite titles. You can find subscription forms in most Marvel comics, or just write to Marvel's subscription department for more details.

Meanwhile, if you want to give your French lessons a boost, you might want to try a little trick we've found helpful: namely, check out some French editions of comics you've already read in English! That way, you'll already know pretty much what the story's about, and between that and the pictures accompanying the text, you'll be surprised to see how easy it is to figure out those unfamiliar French words. Hey, who says enjoying Marvel comics can't be educational?

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE dudes,

I was wondering, "What's next?" What I mean is, first there was MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS, then SECRET WARS II; then there was the Mutant Massacre, the Fall of the Mutants, the Evolutionary Wars, and finally Inferno. What's next? SECRET WARS III? Or something totally different?

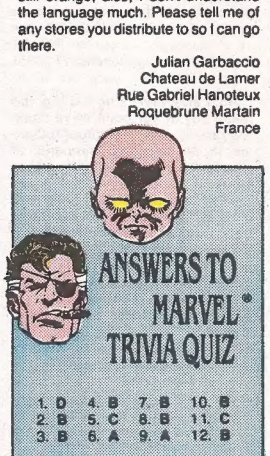
Jason Mercer
E. Moline, IL

We'd love to tell you, Jason, but we're smack in the middle of the "Atlantis Attacks" crossover saga in this year's annuals and we're just too busy to find out!

Does that mean we're too busy for this month's MARVEL CORRESPONDENTS? No way! We're never that busy! What's this? You say you've never heard of Marvel Correspondents? Well, in twenty-five words or more, they're those personable people from around the planet who are looking for new friends to write to and read from ("Read from?"). So why not take a minute and drop one or two of them a line? At the rate we're going, we could make the postal service even more successful than when the Marvelettes sang "Please Mr. Postman!"

Hmmm . . . "Marvelettes?" You don't suppose . . .

Nah.



MARVEL® CORRESPONDENTS

If you want to be listed in this space, simply send your name, address, age, and the titles of your three favorite Marvel series to Marvel Correspondents at the address right under the title to this month's letter column.

Now let's meet this month's gathering of guys and gals:

Matthew Jent
2726 Weaver Rd.
Batavia, OH 45103
Age: 9
Favorites: ALPHA FLIGHT, X-TERMINATORS, EXCALIBUR

Mark Egan
3020 Meyer Ct.
Maplewood, MN 55109
Age: 15
Favorites: X-FACTOR, X-MEN, EXCALIBUR

Eckerlein Guillaume
20 Rue des Ecoles 92330
Sceaux FRANCE
Age: 15
Favorites: X-MEN, X-FACTOR, DAREDEVIL

Mark Sullivan
34 Mott St.
Arlington, MA 02174
Age: 14
Favorites: ALL SPIDER-MAN TITLES, ALL MUTANT TITLES, PSI-FORCE

HOA VU
4819 Blondo St.
Omaha, NE 68104
Age: 15
Favorites: SILVER SURFER, IRON MAN, SPIDER-MAN

Frank Moyer
945 Excelsior Ave.
Croydon, PA 19020
Age: 20
Favorites: WEST COAST AVENGERS, X-MEN, THE PUNISHER

Eduardo Matos
6006 Jefferson St. Apt. 1
West New York, NJ 07093
Age: 17
Favorites: X-MEN, X-FACTOR, THE NEW MUTANTS

Marc Watts
736 Collecton Rd. B
Columbia, SC 29203
Age: 25
Favorites: AVENGERS, FANTASTIC FOUR, WEST COAST AVENGERS

Eric Sproul
419 Glen Ave.
Staunton, VA 24401
Age: 1468 Clark St.
Iselin, NJ 08830
Age: 12
Favorites: SILVER SURFER, THE NEW MUTANTS, X-MEN

Comics Buyer's Guide™
Fan Awards for 1988

Welcome to the ***CBG*** Fan Awards. ***Comics Buyer's Guide***, a weekly newspaper devoted to the world of comic books, sponsors these awards to let *you*, the readers, decide which comic books deserve to be called "the best." Just fill out the ballot and send it to the address below.

1. Favorite Editor .....

2. Favorite Writer .....

3. Favorite Penciller .....

4. Favorite Inker .....

5. Favorite Colorist .....

6. Favorite Letterer .....

7. Favorite Cover Artist .....

8. Favorite Comic-Book Story .....

9. Favorite Comic Book .....

10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series .....

11. Favorite Original Graphic Novel or Album .....

12. Favorite Reprint Graphic Novel or Album .....

13. Favorite Character .....

14. Favorite Publication about Comics .....

Only material with a 1988 cover date can win. DC's 1988 issues dated "Holiday" or "Winter" are eligible. Votes for projects that did not have a 1988 publication date will not be counted.

Copy this ballot and give it to your friends, so they can vote, too. ***Anyone who loves comics can vote*** — but only vote once. If you vote more than once, all of your votes will be thrown out. Vote only in the categories you want, and ignore any you don't. ***Comics Buyer's Guide*** is not eligible for Category 14.

Every voter in the United States will get a *free copy* of ***Comics Buyer's Guide*** #817, dated July 14, 1989, unless you already have a current or expired subscription to ***CBG***. That issue will carry the list of winners! Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that free copies of ***CBG*** can't be sent, unless your vote is accompanied by $1.50 in U.S. funds, to cover handling and shipping.

Mail your ballot individually in a single envelope by June 10, 1989, to:

Comics Buyer's Guide *Fan Awards*
700 East State Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54990

Name ..... **Male Female** (circle one) **Age** .....

Street or Box .....

City, State, and **ZIP** .....

Please type or print your votes and information clearly.

You need not cut or tear out this page in order to vote! Copies are acceptable and will be counted.

NTH MAN™
THE ULTIMATE NINJA

BY LARRY HAMA, RON WAGNER & FRED FREDERICKS

STARTING IN APRIL FROM MARVEL®

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